Ciceronis Amor.

[redacted] 5.

Tullies Loue.

Wherein is discoursed, the prime of *Ciceroes youth, setting out in liuely Portraitures*, howe yoong Gentlemen, that ayme at Honor, should leuell the end of their affections, holding the *loue of Countrey and Friends in more esteeme, than those* fading blossomes of Beauty, that onely feede the curious suruey of the eie.

A Worke, full of Pleasure, as following Ciceroes vaine, who was as conceited in his youth, as graue in his age; profitable, as containing precepts worthy so famous an Orator.

Robert Greene In artibus magister.

Omne tulit punctum qui miscuit vtile dulci.

AT LONDON
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[illegible]

To the right honorable, Ferdinando *Stanley, Lord Strange, ennobled with all* Titles that Honor may affoord, or Vertue challenge, Robert Greene wiſheth encreaſe of vertuous and Lordly reſolutions.

THE *Tripos* (right Honorable) ingrauen with *detur ſapienti*, was by the Oracle allotted to *Socrates*; *Achilles* ſhielde maintained with the ſword, fell to *Vlyſſes* for his wiſedome; *Pallas* hadde her Library, and her Launce; and ſuch as reade *Non vltrà* on *Hercules* Pillers, poynted out the Characters with their Speares. Proportion the mother of Geometry, and Miſtris of Artes, commaunds that *Hector* haue his Honors, *Alcides* his glories: and that *Olympus* be neuer without bright glittering armour, nor greene wreathed Garlandes, as well to grace the ſouldier, as to glory the Poet.

This conſidered (right Honorable) hauing doone my endeuour to penne downe the Loues of *Cicero*, which *Plutarch*, and *Cornelius Nepos* forgote in their writings: I preſumed to preſent vnto your Honour, not high written Poems, as *Maro* did to *Auguſtus*, but the fruites of well intended thoughts, as *Callymachus* ſcholler did to *Alexander*, thinking nothing rare or view woorthy, ſufficiently patronaged, vnleſſe ſhrowded vnder the protection of ſo honorable a Mecenas. Whatſoeuer was pleaded in *Roſtro*, was not penned by *Hortenſius*, and yet the Senators heard and gaue plauſible cenſures. *Homer* ſpent verſes, as well on *Irus* the beggar, as *Eurymachus* the wooer.

Euery ſentence cannot *Cleanthis lucerna molere*, and yet men will reade Poems, and praiſe them. Then (right Honorable) if my worke, treating of *Cicero*, ſeeme not fit for *Cicero*, as eclipſing the beauteous ſhew of his eloquence, with a harſh & vnpolliſhed ſtile, yet I craue that your Honor will vouch of it, onely for that it is written of *Cicero*. *Ennius* labored as hard in his rough Poeſies, as *Virgil* in his high Poems. *Phidias* penſil (in his owne conceit) was as ſharpe pointed, as *Pigmaleons* chaſing tooles: meane wits, in their follies, haue equall paines with learned Clarks in their fancies. *Apollo* yeelded Oracles, aſwel to poor men for their prayers, as to Princes for their preſents. Stars haue their lights, and haires their ſhadows. Meane Schollers haue high thoughtes, though lowe fortunes. Thus perſwaded and emboldened (right Honorable) I preſent this Pamphlet of *Ciceroes* Loues to your Lordſhip, reſolued vpon your courteous acceptance, that weighing the minde, not the matter, your Honor will ſay, if not *Bucephalus*, yet a horſe. And in this hope reſting, I wiſh to your Lordeſhip, as much health and happines, as your Honor can deſire, or I imagine.

Your Lordſhips humbly deuoted

Robert Greene.

To the gentle Readers, health.

GEntlemen, I haue written of *Tullies Loue*, a worke attempted to winne your fauours, but to diſcouer mine own ignorance, in that, coueting to counterfet *Tullies* phraſe, I haue loſt my ſelf in vnproper words: but hoping (as euer I haue done) of your courteſies, I haue, like bold bayard, put my head out of the ſtable. If my methode be woorſe then it was wont to be, thinke that skill in Muſicke marrde all: for the cliffe was ſo diſſonant from my note, that wee coulde not clappe a concord together by fiue markes. *Chiron* the Sagitarie was but a fained conceipt, and menne that beare greate ſhapes, and large ſhadowes, and haue no good, nor honeſt mindes, are like the portraiture of *Hercules*, drawne vpon the Sands. If I ſpeake myſtically, thinke tis muſically, and ſo deſiring that you will take *Tullies Loue*, as penned for your pleaſure, I bid you, farewell.

Robert Greene.

Ad Lectorem Hexaſticon.

IN lucem prodit tenebris exuta malignis
Romelei petulans, veſanaq́ flammula Phœbi:
Rorantem Authori (Lectores) ſpargite florem,
Intyba, Narciſſos, Latacen, picliq́ roſeti
Dulces diuitias: Illum concingite lauru:
Einerito ſolers induſtria reddat honorem.

Thomas Watſon. Oxon.

Ad lectorem de Ciceronis amore, Hexaſticõn.

MIraris fortaſſe legens Ciceronis amorem?
Deſine mirari, qui bene ſcribit, amat.
Crimen inèſſe putas? ſemel inſaniumus omnes,
Quæ faciunt iuuenes, condoluere ſenes.
Linguam qui laudat Ciceronis, laudet amorem,
Gremi ſolus honor, ſit Ciceronis amor.

G. B. Cantabrigienſis.

VArro and *Tucca* wrote of *Maroes* verſe,
And *Dares* darde to tell of *Homers* skill,
Of *Ouids* workes Latins haue made reherſe,
And Poets haue diſcourſt of *Pindars* quill,
Many haue writ Coſmographie of lands,
And told of *Gihon*, and of *Tagus* ſandes
Of *Helens* beauty, and of *Ledaes* hew,
The winged fancies of the learnd haue told:
But of the prowdeſt Poets old or new,
Who darde ſweete *Tullies* fancies once vnfold?
As farre too high for all that yet haue beene,
Then giue the Palme and glory vnto *Greene*.

Thomas Burneby Eſquire.

NOw bloomes and bloſſoms of faire *Adons* flower,
Cupid is ſtolne from *Pathos* ſecret ſhrine,
Diana lurkes, ſhe and her Nymphs do lower,
Bacchus that tempers ſacred Loue with wine,
Ceres, and all the gods haue made agree,
That Loue is god, and there is none but he.
The Poemes wanton *Ouid* ſet in verſe,
His Art of Loue that baniſht him from *Rome*,
Did neuer ſuch quaint Amorets reherſe,
As are deſciphered vnder *Tullies* doome,
Whoſe Romane phraſe fetcht from *Parnaſſus* hill,
Sayes, none but *Tully* in the depth of skill.

Edward Rainsford Eſquire.

TVLLIES LOVE

THere dwelled in the Cittie of Rome being metropolitane of the worlde, famous as well for martiall Champions, as delicate for beautifull Ladies, a Conſul called Flaminius, made glorious by fortune, as having twiſe rode in the triumphing chariot, and worne the Lawrell wreath, giuen as a Palme to ſuch as haue beene happie for many great victories. This conſull famous in the common wealth for his martiall exploites, Fortune whoſe conceite reſtes in extreames, either to prodigall in her fauours, or preiudiciall in her frowns, to make this man the miracle of her deitie, lent him one onely Daughter of ſuch excellent exquiſite perfection, as Nature in her ſeemed to wonder at her owne workes. Her haire was like the ſhine of Apollo, when haking his glorious treſſes he makes the world beautious with his brightnes. The Iuorie of her face ouer dasht with a vermillion die, ſeemed like the bluſh that leapt from Endimions cheekes, when Cynthia courts him on the hilles of Latmos. So did the proportion of her bodie anſwere to the perfection of the minde, and the honour of her thoughts ſo fitted to the glory of her fauors, as it reſted doubtfull whether her outward beauties, or inward vertues held the ſupremacie. In ſo much, that as men flocke to Delphos, to heare the Oracles of Apollo, ſo diuers reſort to Rome to take view of the excellency of Terentia: who once delighted with the ſight of her graces, ſet downe this as an Axiome, that Pallas the Patroneſſe of Troy for wiſdome, or Venus the wonder of heauen for beauty, might not diſgrace the dignities of this gorgeous Damoſell. Rome ſwelling with

the pride of this matchles Virgine, whose thoughts were more humble then her face beautifull: and yet the Painters of that time feared to attempt her portraiture, as finding the perfection of nature to excede the proportion of Art, made her the Mistresse of their vestals, as one that counted fancie as vnfit for a maide, as Alexander cowardize for a souldier. Cupid sitting on his mothers knée by the fount of Alcydalion, seeing how Terentia, enimie to his amorous philosophie, set loue at so light esteeme, and for a charme against his magicall inchauntments, carried the euer burning fire of Vesta in her breast, clasping his mother wantonly about the necke he began thus to prattle. Seeing mother, we haue left the places of our accustomed residence, to auoyd the troups of such suters, as only end their loues with their liues, and haue stolne to the secret fount here a while, to be solitary, to weare away the time with some conceited chat, I pray you tell me whereof are womens hearts made: I aske the question mother, for that I find the distinction of their fancies like the difference of their faces, which as they be distinguisht in proportion, so they be altogether vnlike in properties. Venus hearing her sonne make such a waggish demaunde, began thus to replie. Some say, my boy, of the liuer of a Camelion, whose nature is to be changeable in hues, and women as variable in their thoughts. Others of a pyrit stone, which handled softly, is as cold as ice, but pressed betweene the fingers, burneth like fire: they which inferre this comparison, say that women breake not fauourable perswasions, nor may be wonne by intreaties, but the ready way to kindle them to Desire, is to crosse them with Disdaine. Some say their hearts are of Parble, which being hard, yet drops teares against euery storme: Some of ware that is soft, admitting euery impression, those women haue their loues in their lookes, which taken in with a gaze, is thrust out with a winke: some, of Adamant, they be hard hearted, and yet men say, the Lapidaries haue tools to pierce them: others of golde, and they be like Danae, that will admit no loue but such as Iupiter. To be briefe, my boy, so many fancies, so many fictions, euery one censuring of womens hearts, as

his

his owne experience hath found her froward or fauourable. Cupid hearing his mothers discourse thus cunningly, demaunded amongest all these, whereof was Terentias heart of Rome formed: At this Venus fetching a deepe sigh, prosecuted her former premisses thus. Wel wag, for all you play the wanton, hast thou insight so far into thine enemies thoughts, that thou hast quoted in thy tabls, the resolution of Terentia, whome men count more beautifull then my selfe, and more chast then Diana. Her heart, my boy, is framed of the purest Diamond, which, as it is hard to entertaine Loue, so it is cleane, fit for the receit of Vertue: I tell thee Cupid, Terentia makes Desire her drudge, and Disdaine her champion: Shee honours all the Gods but thee, and admits all recreations but Loue: She may finish her age with content of patience: The prime of her yeares are graue, that the fruites of her time may be gracious, and shee striues to be as full of honor in her life, as full of fauours in her lookes. To conclude, my boy, shee is Terentia, who seekes with labors to auoid loues, and indeuours to be called as vertuous, as other Ladies amorous. Thus Venus ended with a frowne, and Cupid began with a smile, she scorning at her honors, he studying on reuenge, after a little pause the choloricke boy burst forth into these tearmes: And shall Terentia offer perfumes to Vesta, and hemlocke to Venus? shall shee (mother) strawe Dianaes Lawnes with Roses, and your pallaces with nettles? shall shee set Dames in rags, and Disdaine in silkes? No, Cupid hath his boults fethered with the wings of swallowes that flie swift, and his arrowes headed with strong tempered steele, that pierce deepe, like to Achilles launce, that did wound, and heale: my shafts (mother) are of sundry metals, the strongest of them al wil I aime at Terentia, and if my fortune faile me not, I will change her songs to sighes, and her chast prayers to amorous passions. And with that, leaping from his mothers lappe, he bent his bow, shot an arrow, and hit Terentia on the heart, but it was of such proofe, as the boult rebounded, and brake into a thousand shiuers. At this Cupid scorned, seeing his deitie counterchect with such constant chastitie: and Venus smiled, [illegible]

ingher sonne in such a rage: which so increased his choller, that he discharged all his arrowes at random, carelesse of his aime, so he might any way reuenge. Amongst the rest young Lentulus a Romaine Cauelier, vnder whose conduct the consul sent many legions to make warre against the Parthians, was one of those vnfortunate men that Cupid had hurled with his arrowes. For having fought a set battell, and bought the victory with great losse, fresh supplies were sent him from Rome: Lentulus welcomming his new come souldiers, demaunded what newes: after they had made report of the state of the common wealth, they than, as a thing miraculous and supernaturall, discoursed to him the excellencie of Terentia, setting out her glories with such emphaticall descriptions, that Lentulus leaning his head on his hand became a willing auditor to such pleasant philosophie. Smiling thus in the oner-sweete potions that Loue had tempered like Circes to bewitch the wary and warlike Vlysses, hee caused his souldiers with often repetitions of Terentias beauty, to graft it in the sinews of his new interteined fancies. In the day his head was troubled with thoughts of Terentia: in the night conceit presented the visions of Terentia. Where before he laid plots how to circumuent the Parthians, now he deuised how to compasse his passions: loue wilht him to make light esteeme of war, but growing to bee carelesse, he gaue his enimies occasion of incouragement. Being thus perplexed with vnacquainted fits, he began thus souldier-like to debate with himselfe. Haue not the ancient Romaines whose statues and trophees haue filled the world with wonder of their chiualry, aimde the end of their honors to consist in arms: haue they not fetcht fame from the heauens with their swords, and bound hir to their fortunes with circumscriptions of bloud: haue not their lances pierst oblitiion to the hart, and their martial deeds registred their names in the chronicles of memory? and yet Lentulus, dost thou make light esteeme of war, whose very frownes are honor, and whose fauors immortal glories? Blush at thy thoughts that are so base, and weepe with Cæsar, that thou hast not done wonders with Alexander. Thou art elected

by

by the Consuls, as a choice man of Rome, as high prised for thy valour, as thy parentage, and yet thy mother was of the great Æmilij. Thou art sent against the Parthians, a nation warrelike and resolute, eyther to challenge thy graue with thy sworde, or carue out their tombes with thy Courtleare. Darest thou then Lentulus, amidst those glorious thoughtes of a Souldier, admit the least passion of a Louer? shall thy policies, twinkle for the Parthians, be imployed, in purchasing Terentia? No Lentulus, draw thy fawchon, brandish it against Rome, and if Loue looke but ouer the walles, menace her with thy martiall weapons: and yet Lentulus, be not so stoicall, as to reiect such a mighty deitie. Haue not the Romans erected a temple neere vnto Campus Martius? Are not Knights dubbed, to defend Ladies? Make they not their Helmes prowde with their Mistris fauors? Mars hath his amours, as he hath his armours. Alexander gloried in his Loues, as he triumphed in his Victories. Great Pompey hath his Iulia, Cæsar his paramour, Souldiers haue loued, and so will I. Hauing thus discoursed with himselfe, his hope of the loues, drane such an inuincible courage into his mind, that he passed not many dayes, without giuing battell to the Parthians, in which, getting a glorious victory, he sent great treasure, and many captiues home to Rome, with great intercession to the Senate, that he might not winter from his owne country. The Consuls glad to fauour him with any reasonable grant, sent Lepidus to take his place, and recalled Lentulus home to the Citie. The fame of whose high intended thoughts, his conquest inlarged with infinite treasures and rich captiues, made Rome to ring with eccheos of his matchlesse excellencie: insomuch, that passing through the streetes to the Capitoll, there to be inuested with the honors due to his victories, multitudes of Romanes were placed on scaffolds, to take view of so braue and hardy a captayne, and the gorgeous windowes of the city were stuffed with troups of beautifull Ladies, tickled with an earnest desire to satisfie their sights with his personage. Passing thus in pomp, Iulius Cæsar then being Dictator, after the solempne rites and magnificent triumphs were ended, bade him home to din-

ner, where he feasted him with such royaltie as might be-seeme the greatnes of the daie, and the highnes of his owne thoughts. Thus flew the fame of Lentulus through Rome, as the wonder of his time, but al those triumphant dignities could not extirpate the melancholy of this Romans thoughts inserted into his minde by the fond inchauntments of loue, but as the wounded Deere wringeth foeth teares, and the Mirtle pierced, yeeldeth gumme, so Lentulus after this deep impression of loue, could afford nought but sighes and sorrowes. The Gemme of Terentias excellencie reflected in his mind, like an obiect in a Cristall mirrour, that amiddest his most serious affaires, he found the passions of Loue to be intermedled. Fortune that had tyed hir fauours in the toppe of his Crest, halfe perswaded to becom constant to this warlike champion, seeing Cupid wrong him without cause, thought with a soueraigne antidote, to preuent the further ensuing preiudices of fancie. Forcing therefore Oportunitie to daunce attendance vpon this her darling, it fell out, that Flaminius the father of Terentia, seeing howe Lentulus was generally feasted of all the Senators in Rome, thought, amongst the rest, to welcome home the warrior with a banket: and therefore meeting him at one Titus Annius Miloes house, he solempnely inuited him home to dinner. Lentulus, as full of curtesie, as courage, after great thankes, promises to be his guest. Whereupon Flaminius passing home, made prouision: and Lentulus stealing to his lodging, being solitary, conceiued such inward ioy at this sweete oportunitie, that leaning vpon his left hand, smiling to himselfe, he breathed out these wordes: Such, I see wel, as Mars honors with fauors, Venus wil not crosse with frowns: those that conquer in Warres, shall not perish in Loues. Cupid fauours his fathers followers, and such as Fortune smiles on in battel, she laughs on in fancies: I coueted to beare charge against the Parthians, and the Senate elected me Lord of their Legions: Desire wisht me to haue a sight of Terentia, and her father entertaines me for a guest. I made conquest of mine ennemies with the sword, and why may I not winne Loue with my loyaltie? Feare not Lentulus, these concluded comparisons

sons are prestigious, be Augure then to thy selfe, and calculate thy good fortunes by thy thoughts: Loues and Warres craue courage. Feare not man, for thy intreaties are as mighty, as her denialls can be contrary. As thus he was debating within himselfe, the clocke tolde him it was time to go to visite his Host, so that he made himselfe as sumptuous as might be, and at the parting from his chamber doore, hee saide thus: If Venus (quoth he) thou fauor me in my loues, I will become thy vowed seruant in my life: I will strew thy Altars with Roses, and set thee vp shrines at Paphos, I wil binde vp my temples with myrtle bowes, and for the martiall garland weare a wreathe of floures, I will haue doues nests in my Pallaces, and what belongs to thee, shal be some of my delight, onely grace me with the fauour of Terentia. Ending this his vow, he passed forward with his traine towardes the house of Flaminius, where being arriued, the graue Senator entertained him with such magnificence, as Lentulus perceiued his welcome by his honours. The bord couered, and the company ready to sit, Lentulus was placed chiefe at the table, who all this while, hauing not sight of Terentia, sate as a man nipped on the head, although there were at the table, to grace the feast, many braue and beautifull damsels. Sitting thus in a dump, he was cheered vp by all the company: but at last, to set him in his iollity, Terentia was commaunded by her father, to bring him in a cuppe of Grecish wine. She that little cared to be seene in open banquets, as holding it contrary to the rites of Vesta, durst not yet, but with all diligence, signifie her obedience. Therfore attired in a rich robe of white, spotted with starres of golde, tempering the porphury of her face with a vermilion blush, loking like Diana when she bathe at Acteons presence, shee came into the hall, where humbly saluting all the company, she deliuered the wine to her father. Lentulus seeing fame had but blemisht her fauors, in being so partial of her praises, sat so amased at the beauteous excellencie of Terentia, as did the Centaure enamored of Iuno. His eie made suruey of her beauties, who posting the ouer to the contēplation of his thoghts, so set on fire his heart with her perfections, as his stomacke

shut

ſhut vp her practiſe, to giue his eies leaue to wonder at the ſe-
rious conceit of natures cunning: his looks began to ſparkle
loue, as did thoſe of Adon, when he priced vpon the face of his
paramoure: the change of his color bewrayed his new inter-
tained paſſions: which noted by Terentia, half angry at loues
folly, ſhe diſcouered hir color with ſuch a bluſh, as Lentulus
letting fal his knife on his trencher, ſaid alowd, Non fortuna,
non Bellum, meaning that neither the higheſt ſtate of for-
tune, nor the fatall intent of warre could conquere that hart
that her beauty hath made ſubiect. Terentia at this vnex-
pected exclamation abaſhed, and the reſt of the companie
marualled: but Flaminius willing to moue ſome table talke,
demaunded of Lentulus what he ment by this ſodaine em-
bleme. Lentulus willing to make ſlight at the ſoule, and
yet not to haue a bel at his hæle, anſwered thus. Whilſt I
lay in legar, intrenching the Parthians more hardie with le-
gions of men, then with dæpe raiſed countermures my ſoul-
diers diſcouered a caſtle, which once wonne, diſplaced the
ſtrength of the countrie, ſæing the Romans had made me
vicegerent of their forces, although the place ſæmed impæg-
nable, bæing as well defended by nature, ſituate vpon a
mount, as by prouiſion ſtored with men and munition, yet
priſing honor more dære then bloud, and countries profite
beyond the content of life, I bent certaine legions againſt
the caſtle and following the opinion of Quintus Fabius Ma-
ximus, ſought by delay to driue them to compoſition. For it
was ſaid of him:

Vnus homo nobis cunctando reſtituit rem,
Non ponebat enim rumores ante ſalutem.
Ergo poſtque magiſq; viri nunc gloria claret.

Sæking ſo to get conqueſt by famine, which would haue
bæne preiudiciall with the ſword. at laſt, ſæing their forces
greatly weakened, I gaue aſſault, and entred, putting the
ſouldiers to the ſword, yet willing to ſaue the Lord of the
caſtle, for that his valour diſcouered his thoughts, ſearching
him out, I found him in his bed-chamber, his wife ſlaine,

and

and the blade yet varnished with blood grasped in his fist, eareing me in the face with a gastly looke, that stood amazed at the stratageme, he spake thus. Romane, report in the Senate house, that where you excell vs in policie, we exceed you in resolution: this Ladie which thou seest here weltring in her gore, is my wife, and for she brookes not second fancies, she craued to end her loue with her life: I married her a virgine and honorable, she dies a wife and honest, as famous in Parthia for her vertues, as your Romaine Dames for their braueries. We lined without iarres, for that the desire of the one was the content of the other, constancy banished iealousie, and trueloue held suspition at the launces point. Our fortunes (Romane) thou hast pulde downe with thy prowesse, warre hath made wracke of our safeties, but for our loues, this sworde shall linke them together by death, so that Non fortuna non bellum. And with that the resolute souldier stabbed himselfe. Astonied at this peremptory massacre, although all stained with the blonde of the Parthians: yet I could not but grieue at the passion of the man, and enter into consideration what that loue should be, that wrought in mens minds such resolute effects: so well liking of his determinate death, that I vowed in my thoght, if euer I obtained the fauour of some gracious Damosel to write blood with the Parthian, *Non fortuna non bellum*. The remembrance (honorable senators) of this tragedy made me to shewe my selfe so passionate. Lentulus hauing ended his discourse, the Senatours generally praysed the resolution of the Parthian, and the Ladies, the constancie of his wife, all concluding, that no impression could bee so deeply inserted into the heart, as loue. Terentia, spying the flame by the smoke, smiled to see howe couertly Lentulus had cloaked his thoughtes, and how, in vowing to bee constant, he discouered his conceit, so that turning her backe, she went into her Closett, and there blamed Venus, that had wrapt so braue a Champion in her subtilties: not feeling, either the personage, or perfections of Lentulus, to stirre the stayed continencie of her minde. Wel, the Senatours not willing to lette this fall to the grounde, talking still of the Parthian,

and amongst the rest of those honourable guests that were there feasted, Archias the poet, a man of a pleasant disposition, toke the tale by the ende, and beganne to prosecute it thus.

Graue Senatours, I remember I haue heard Hortensius the greate Orator say, that in times past, the Consuls, for recreation, would vse light and honest pastimes, especially mirth at meate, as the fittest minister for digestion, alleadging Scipio and Gracchus, who counted to be as iocund at their banquets, as they were serious in matters of estate. Seeing then (reuerent fathers) Lentulus hath entred into the discourse of Loue, producing the Parthian, who amongest his other singularities, boasted, that his fancy had neuer beene stained with Iealousie, a plague that is greatly nowadayes predominant in Rome, might it please you to fauour vs with your gracious consent, we would intreate Lentulus to discourse to vs, his opinion of iealousie. The Senatours granted, and Terentia being come to giue attendance on her father, smiled. Lentulus casting his eies vpon his loue, seeing a dimple in her cheeke, which was to him *Cor amoris*, made Archias this present answer.

Had the Thebans appointed Zetus to haue discoursed on Musicke, or they of Thessaly Menalcas, to haue described the Court: The principles of the one had beene as voide of Art, as the precepts of the other farre from honour: The one being an enemy to Musicke, the other, a swaine, and a shepheard. So (reuerend Senators, and honorable Ladies of Rome) Archias, how skilfull soeuer in Poetry, yet hath failed in his policie, to request him to discourse of Iealousie, that neuer as yet offered incense at the Altars of Loue. If it had bin, to make description of a battel, to haue discoursed the order of the phalanx, or any poynt of martiall discipline, then could I, as a souldier, haue dilated such principles, as warlike Captaines register in the field with their sword. But of Loue, whose amorous deitie agreeth not with drumme and trumpet: or of Iealousie, as the shadowe of Fancie, it sitteth mee as little to discourse, as the shomaker of Apelles portraiture. But if euer Venus shal vouch mee that fauour,

to

to grace me with a speciall looke from my Mistris excellencie, and that mine eie be allowed, as Paris was, to iudge of beauties, Archias shall commaund me as a friend: in the meane time, for Poets and Painters ought to haue their conceits feathered with Mercuries plumes, I wil desire Archias to supply my ignorance, and to describe the effectes of Iealousie. The Senators, and the rest of the company, hearing how cunningly Lentulus retorted the argument vppon Archias, with a resolute consent, they inioyned Archias to play the Orator, who being pleasantly disposed, began thus.

The wolues in Syria that barke against the Moone, suffer small rest, and great hunger: Arrowes shot against the stars, pierce downeward: and the Syrens that sought to intrap Vlysses, perisht themselues: so Gentlemen, I sought to make experience of Lentulus eloquence, and Fortune hath alotted me to discouer mine owne ignorance, but lest I might be counted, eyther too stoicall, or too too full of selfe conceit: for Iealousie thus.

Archias discourse of Iealousie.

SVch as haue searched into the deepest Aphorismes of Anacreon, or pried into the principles that Ouid set downe in his Volumes, finde Loue to be such a pure passion of the mind, as, like the Cristall, it admitteth no bruise, without a cracke: It groweth from the vnion of two minds, conceiued by the speciall liking of some excellent good, consisting in exteriour beautie, or interior vertues, or the combining of them both in one soule, and singular perfection. This choice of excellencie confirmed by election once imprinted in the heart is so pretious as the pearles of Cleopatra. The fleece of Colchos, the sands of Tagus are trash, if brought into compare with this diuine and metaphisicall passion: man hauing swilled in this nectar of loue, is so chary, that he not onely bridleth no corrinall of his thoughts, but admitteth no partaker of his fauours, and from this feare proceedeth that furie which men call Iealousie, being a secret suspicion, that others should enioy that excellencie, that he hath chosen sole

and ſingular to himſelfe. This (noble Romans) is that fiend that Pluto ſent to checke Cupid in his deitie: this ſpringing from hell, bringeth worſe torments to the minde then the ſtone of Syſiphus, vulture of Titus, or wheele of Ixion. This is the cankar that fretteth the quiet of the thoughts, the moth that ſecretly conſumeth the life of man, and the poiſon ſpecially oppoſed againſt the perfection of loue: after the heart be once infected with ielouſie, the leaps are broken, the dreams, diſquiet ſlumbers, the thoughts, cares, and ſorrowes, the life, woe, and miſerie, that liuing, he dies, and dying, prolongs out his life in paſſions worſe then death. None looketh on his loue but ſuſpicion ſayes, this is he that couets to be corriuall of my fauours: None knockes at his doore, but ſtarting vp, he thinkes them meſſengers of fancie, none talkes but they whiſper of affection: if ſhe frowne, ſhe hates him, and loues others, if ſhe ſmile, it is becauſe ſhe hath had ſucceſſe in her loues, looke ſhe frowardly on any man, ſhe diſſembles, if ſhe fauour him with a gratious eye, then as a man ſtraught with frenſie, he cryeth out, that neither fire in the ſtraw, nor loue in womens lookes can be concealed, thus doth he liue reſtles, and maketh loue, that of it ſelfe is ſweet, to be in taſte as bitter as gall.

This diſcouers (reuerent Senators) that loue being of it ſelfe, a moſt excellent paſſion, is onely blemiſht by this foule and diſgraced ſtaine of ielouſie, as hatefull and hurtefull to the mind, as a Cockatrice to the eye, or hemlock to the taſte. The pureſt chriſolite hath his ſtrakes, the flowers in Sydon, as they are precious in the ſight, ſo they are peſtilent in ſauour: Loue as it is diuine with loialtie, ſo it is helliſh with ielouſie, wherefore by an auncient Poet were written theſe verſes.

When Gods had fram'd the ſweete of womens face,
And lockt mens lookes within their golden haire:
That Phœbus bluſht to ſee their matchles grace,
And heauenly gods on earth did make repaire
To quippe faire *Venus* ouerweening pride,
Loues happie thoughts to ielouſie were tide.

Then

Then grewe a wrinkle on faire *Venus* browe,
The amber sweete of loue is turn'd to gall:
Gloomie was heauen: bright phœbus did avowe
He could be coy and would not loue at all:
Swearing, no greater mischiefe could be wrought,
Then loue yoked to a iealous thought.

Had not Iuno beene iealous euen *Iupiter*, Io had not beene turned into a Heifer: if suspicion had not pricht *Menelaus*, Helena had not stolne away with *Paris*, *Procris* had beene aliue, had shee not suspected *Cephalus*: Then worthy Romaines we see what a preiudiciall monster groweth from the fearefull excesse of loue, that not only shorteneth the life, disquieteth the minde, but oft is the cause of most strange and vnnaturall massacres. If fortune frowne in loue, we flie to patience: If there happen iarres, why louers braules are introductions to delight. If pouertie, why they hope vpon time, thinking that there is *Vicissitudo omnium rerum*, the lowest ebbe may haue his flow, and the deadest neape his full tide: if griefes, sorrowes, repulses, vnkindnes, these be but *Amantium iræ*: And therefore *Amoris redintegratio*: but as the punice stone fretth the paper from spots, and the fire consumeth flax; so this infernall plague of iealousie roteth and raceth all true loue from the heart, that yeelding my censure, I conclude with this Poeme.

Vita quæ tandem magis est iucunda,
Vel viris doctis magis expetenda,
Mente quam pura sociam ingalem,
Semper amare?

Vita quæ tandem magis est dolenda,
Vel magis cunctis fugienda quam qua,
(Falso suspecta probitate amica)
Tollit amorem?

Nulla eam tollit medicina pestem,
Murmur, emplastrum vel imago saga,
Astra nec curant, magica nec artes,
Zelotipiam.

Archias hauing thus ended his discourse, the Senatours greatly praised his description of iealousie, and from that fell to other plesant talke as occasion offred. Dinner being ended, they arose, and after many thankes and curtesies, according to the custome of the Romanes, Flaminius to honor Lentulus the more, taking him by the hand, caried him into a garden, where Terentia sate accompanyed with other Virgins of Rome: namely, Flauia, Cornelia, and Iulia, all of such exquisite features, as they seemed to be the choyce Paragons of that time. Lentulus amazed at this gorgeous sight, wondred not onely at their beauties, but maruelled why Flaminius brought him so friendly into their presence. At last, the old man burst forth into these words: Lord Lentulus, I measure the thoughts of yong gentlemen, by the prime of my forepassed youth, not being so cynicall as with Chremes in Terence, to proportion young affections, by the cynders of olde age, but to thinke with Menedemus, that the spring hath flowers and blossomes, whereas winter hath dried braunches, and tawnie leaues. Wee old men, ouer whome Saturnus is predominant hauing infused melancholie in our mindes, couet, either to sit solitarie, or that our talke be serious: you that are yong, whose thoughts aime at delights, seeke to passe the time in pleasant discourses. Lest therefore the time might be tedious, I haue brought you amongst these faire Ladies, that you may make experience of loues, as you haue done of wars: Mars no sooner puts off his helmet, but he salutes Venus: and you come from conquest of the Parthians, see how you can enter combate with passions: and so Lord Lentulus I leaue you.

Lentulus seeing himselfe thus inuironed with these miracles of beauty, casting his eyes vpon the goddesse, whose fauourable aspect might be the summe of his fortunes, bashed at the first, as Paris did in the vale of Ida, and stood as the

foes

tes of Perseus when he vncased the head of Medusa, & turned them to marble pictures: so amazed stood Lentulus at the sight of such diuine excellency, till the Ladyes seeing this Romes thus in a quandary, began to smile, which reuiuing a kind of amorous choller, in the souldiers minde, he began thus to play the Champion.

Ladies, beleeue me, Loue is of more force then warres, and the lookes of women, pierce deeper then the stroke of lances, there is no curtlear so keene, but armor of high proofe can withstande, but beauties arrowes are so sharpe, and the darts that flie from womens eyes, so piercing, as the corslet tempered by Vulcan, for Didoes paramour, holdes not out the violence of their stroake. The gods tremble when Mars shaketh his launce, but he feareth when Venus casteth a frowne. Alexander neuer tooke notice of the legions of his enemies, but he stood frighted at the beauty of the Amazon. Then sweete Iaunts of Rome, marueil not if I were driuen into a maze at the sight of such beauteous creatures, whose faces are Venus weapons, wherewith shee chercheth the pride of ouer-daring warriours: I cannot (Ladyes) court it as your Romaine youngsters, that tye their wits to their fancies: nor fill your eares with amorous discourses, as Cupids Apprentices, that spend their time in such louing philosophy: Nor can I faine conceited supposes of affection, to prooue my selfe loue-sicke by Poetry. But as a blunt souldier new come from the warres, I offer my selfe a deuout seruant to your beauties, sweating to defend your honours against all men with the hazard of my bloud, and in pawne therof, generaly to you all, but specially to one (as loue hath his whitte) I desire to be entertained as a dutifull seruant to the Lady Terentia. Lentulus hauing thus boldly boorded these louely Virgins, the Ladies seeing with what affection he offred his seruice to Terentia, began to bite the lippe, and shee to blush, who seeing her selfe touched to the quicke, made him this answere.

I knowe not (Lord Lentulus) how to answere of loue, because as yet I neuer knewe loue: ignorant of his forces, because neuer acquainted with his fortunes. Vesta forbids vs

Virgins to name Venus, as they of Ephesus hatefull Erostratus. Diana deales not in Paphos, nor suffers shee any of her maidens to hunt on Erecynus, least meeting with Venus mecocks, they skippe with Calisto, and so seeke after losse. The lesse you are priuate to loues passions, the more welcome to our presence: for rather had we fill our eares with warres fortunes, then with loues follies; and sweeter are the teares that growe from a constant stratageme, then a smile from a comike tale of fancie. For your seruice (lord Lentulus) finding my selfe vnworthy, I craue pardon: Nor can we by Vestaes charter admit such seruants. But if it please you to bee accepted as a worthy Romaine, and my fathers friend, looke for such fauour as mine honour and virginitie can afford.

Lentulus hearing the plausible answere of Terentia, although her first insinuation seemed to answere for his purpose, as preferriug the lawns of Diana, and fiers of Vesta, before loues holy templs, yet she concluded so sweetly as might stande with the modestie of her honour: he therefore made thus his reply.

In that Madame we are both nouices in loue, the simpler are our thoughts, and the neerer should be the simpathy of our affections. Doues match when they are yong: Syenus are graffed when they are sprigs, the one part not but by death, nor are thother seuered but they perish. Souldiers are like virgins, the one striuing to liue vertuous, the other to die valiant: both enemies to loue, while they waite on those which brooke not loue, I meane warre and Vesta: But both must loue, as hauing heartes, and thoughts, eyes to see beautie, and eares to iudge of vertue. I madame while I thought none greater then Mars, was vowed to Mars, but seeing womens wits are worse then weapons, and that their lookes pierce dee per then lances, I haue resigned ouer my fortunes at the shrine of warre, and meane to make proofe of the sweetnesse of loue: Glad that in my first entrance I haue the patronage of your gratious fauor, armed with the which, Mars well may frowne, but not conquer. But sir, quoth Terentia, I graunted my fauour to Lentulus the souldier, not to

Lentulus

Lentulus the louer. And so Madame quoth he, I accept of it, for I am a souldier to doe you honour, and a lesser dispight of my selfe: Flauia, hearing Lentulus, began to reason prettily to the purpose, beeing a Lady of passing merie disposition, whose witte was as full of wiles, as her face of fauour, second in the excellencie of beautie to the Lady Terentia, thought to sift her souldier in this manner.

I see well Lord Lentulus, that as women haue their fauours, so men haue their sayings: the one prodigall in graces, the other politike in deceits, being as cunning to dissemble loue, as we charie to discharge loue. The Romaine Ladies thought to haue found you a flat souldier as ignorant in loues, as we of fancies: but how closely soeuer you couer the flame, the fire will be knowne by the smoke: For your talke so sauours of Loues principles, as we iudge you are as cunning in fayning a passion, as in figuring a battell, and can as soone deceiue a woman with a peh, as slaughter an enemy with a launce. This will make vs to take you for a day friend, and what we like in you present, to disallow to morrow, sweating if you bring amongst vs Venus roses, we will beate you with Vestas nettles: and therefore if you will be admitted as our souldier, we either forbid you the name of loue, or else you shall be out of our fauours. Cornelia willing to breake a iest with the Champion, thwarted Flauia thus. And what of that Madame, hath not warre taught him patience: he hath past sharper brunts then womens frownes. But how your leuell is without aime: If Madame Terentia smyle, his penie is good siluer, tis hir fauour that is the loadstar of his fortunes, and how can we enter into her thoughts, but by coniectures: she full of beautie, and he a proper yong gentleman. At this frumpe the Ladies smiled, and Terentia blusht for anger. But Lentulus seeing such a broad iest pind on the shoulder, willing to make answere for his Mistresse, although he was sore put to his trumps, as halfe set at a Non plus, yet he followed his fortunes thus.

Indeede Ladies thinke I haue patience to beare womens frumpes, that hath incountred an enemies blow, but if I

could as well answere the one, as quit the other, you should neither carrie it to hell, nor to heauen. But to reuenge my selfe as well as I can, thus. First Madame, to cleare my cunning in loue, I refer my selfe to the verdict of your owne conscience: who, were you but as fauourable as you are frowish, would soone censure by my talke, how deepe I am read in loues principles. But women speake by contraries, crying like the Lapwing farthest from their neasts, and so I take it, being checkt for ouermuch loue, when you see I am a nouice in loue. Or perhaps Madame Flauia, you would haue me loue: if it bee so, I will become more studious to satisfie your wish: but you calling me a day friend, that peremptorie punishment were passing sharpe, for one fault to shake me out of seruice, were it not that for so deepe a wound the Ladie Cornelia bringeth in a lenitiue plaister, alleadging my securitie if I be armed with Terentias fauour. Blame me not sweete goddesses, if I aime at the fairest, souldiers haue eies that can iudge of beautie, though they haue not weapons to winne beautie, and eares to deeme of perfections, though they want tongues to discouer passions. The harmonie of loue, I haue heard them say, consistes in vnities, and nothing more preiudiciall to fancie then pluralitie, either of thoughts or of persons. Among many then am I charged but to like of one Psittrelle: If I make choice of Terentia, and thee vouch to grace me with hir fauour, Cornelia concludes truely, that armed with the imagination of her beautie, I thinke my selfe able to brook your frumps, and to withstand the hardy resolution of Mars.

I maruaile then quoth Flauia, halfe in choller (if womens beautie be like Delphicus gladius, of high prowse to defende, and of sharpe edge to offende) why the Senatours chose not out legions of Ladies, that with litle cost and great assurance, they may make conquest of the world: but perhaps all souldiers be not of your temper, for they vse their weapons, and you your lookes.

No Madame quoth Lentulus, that is not the cause, for were it not that euery woman would be a Captaine, and

strine

ſtriue for ſupremacie, they had reſolued vpon this long ago, but fearing a mutinie amongſt themſelues for ſuperioritie, ſith euery one at home will be counted moſt wiſe, and moſt beautifull, though their wits be meane, and fauours leſſe, the Senate are glad to foreſee ſuch an inconuenience. The Ladies hearing how cunningly Lentulus had gald Madame Flauia on her right ſide, began all to ſmile, & ſhee after a bluſh for very anger, began to laugh. Lentulus glad that ſhe had giuen him a ſop of the ſame ſawce, and paid him his debt in his owne coine: Calling to his boy to fetch him a Lute, willing to ſhew his Miſtreſſe hee was not ignorant in Muſicke, ſaid hee would proue the force of beautie by a ſonet which hee heard was made by Orpheus when hee fell firſt into loue with Euridice: tuneing therefore his Lute to his voice, he ſung this dittie.

Mars in a furie gainſt loues brighteſt Queene
Put on his helme, and tooke him to his launce:
On Erecynus mount was Mauors ſeene,
And there his enſignes did the god aduaunce:
And by heauens greateſt gates he ſtowtly ſwore,
Venus ſhould die, for ſhe had wrongd him ſore.

Cupid heard this, and he began to crie,
And wiſht his mothers abſence for a while:
Peace foole quoth Venus, is it I muſt die?
Muſt it be Mars? with that ſhe coind a ſmile:
She trimd hir treſſes, and did curle hir haire,
And made hir face with beautie paſſing faire.

A fan of ſiluer feathers in hir hand,
And in a coach of Ebony ſhe went:
She paſt the place where furious Mars did ſtand,
And out hir lookes a louely ſmile ſhe ſent.
Then from hir browes lept out ſo ſharpe a frowne,
That Mars for feare threw all his armour downe.

He vowd repentance for his raſh miſdeede,
Blaming his choller that had cauſd his woe:
Venus grew gratious, and with him agreed,
But chargd him not to threaten beautie ſo:
For womens lookes are ſuch inchaunting charme:,
As can ſubdue the greateſt god in armes.

Lentulus hauing ſung this dittie, Terentia willing a little to ſhew hir wit began thus. I remember Lord Lentulus, I haue heard my father ſay, that ſouldiers were wont to carrie fauours in their helmes, not fancies in their heart: & made choice of their miſtreſſe to incourage their thoughts, not to inchaunt their affections. But I ſée the auncient honour of the Romanes is ſlipt from proweſſe, to paſſions, and the men couet to be counted rather amorous woers, then hardy warriours: gaſing Mars in the face with bright armour, but offring Oriſons to Venus in ſecret conceites. This did not Quintus Lucius Cyncinnatus, who ſet it downe as Crimen capitale to ſpeake of loue in the Armie. Nor Scipio Affricanus the great, who made lawes that no women ſhould be brought priſoners within the Campe, leaſt loue entring pele mele with warre, might hazard the hautineſſe of their honors. And yet Madame quoth Lentulus, Cyncinnatus had a wife, and Scipio was married. But quoth ſhée it was in their age rather choſen for ſuccours, then amorous paſſions: their youth was wholy ſpent in warres as enemies to loues, counting fancie as a diſhonour to their martiall dignities: rightly in deede with a deepe inſight entring into the enormities that grow from following too preciſely the court of Venus. For beléeue me (gentleman) Poets and and Painters erre much that aſcribe a deity to Cupid, and were worthy to beare ſome greeuous puniſhment for ſuch a new inuented hereſie, which I will approue with a Sonet, that one of Dianaes nymphes made when Iupiter had faulted with Calipſo. And ſo Terentia taking the Lute in her hand began to warble out this rundelay.

Fond

Fond fayning Poets makes of loue a god,
And leaue the Lawrell for the myrtle boughes:
When Cupid is a child not past the rod,
And faire Diana Daphnis most allowes.
Ile weare the baies, and call the wag a boy,
And thinke of loue but as a foolish toy.

Some giue him bowe and quiuer at his backe,
Some make him blinde to aime without aduise:
When naked wretch such feathered bolts he lacke,
And sight he hath, but cannot wrong the wise.
For vse but labours, weapon for defence,
And Cupid like a Coward flieth thence.

He is God in Court, but cottage cals him childe,
And Vestas virgins with their holy fires
Doe cleanse the thoughts that fancie hath defilde,
And burnes the pallace of his fond desires.
With chast disdain they scorne the foolish god;
And prooue him but a boy not past the rod.

Terentia hauing ended her rundelay, as Lentulus was ready to reply, Flaminius came into the Garden with the rest of the Senators, whose graue presence brake off their amorous prattle, so that he leauing the Ladies taking his leaue friendly of them all, but specially with a pitifull glancing loke of Terentia, as craning some fauour for his farewell, he went to the Senators, amongst whom he discoursed long of the maner and custome of the Parthians, of their resolution in warres, and of such serious matters concerning martiall discipline. Passing thus away part of the afternoone, the company at last taking their leaues, yelding great thankes to Flaminius for their good cheere, they parted to their seuerall mansions. Lentulus slipping from the rest of the company, and with a gratious courage take his adue of Terentia, and the other of the Ladies, vowing to be theirs euer in any due honorable seruice, and so staying Terentia by the hand, he went home with Titus Annius Milo: where

he found Marcus Tullius Cicero, then a youth in Rome, about the age of twentie yeares, and very priuate and familiar with Milo. The fame of this Tullies surpassing Eloquence was so bruted abroade in Rome, as they counted him the myrror of that time, and as in Greece they wondered at Demosthenes for his orations, and the popular people fedde their eies with his sight, so as Tully past through the streetes they cried out, Hic est ille Cicero: saying, that as Orpheus with his Musicke made the stones and trees pliant to his melodie: so Tullie tyed the peoples eares to his tong by his eloquence: And that Plato, who for his philosophicall sentences was called diuine, in whose lips Bées rested, as presaging his future excellencie, was inferiour to Tullie in his musicall concord of his phrase. Lentulus noting his perfections, although his Parentage was base, yet thinking his eloquence might bée profitable to his loues, grew to be very familiar with Tullie, insomuch, that of vnacquainted citizens, they grew to be deare and priuate friendes, that their thoughts were vnited with a sure league of amitie, and their hearts were receptables for their mutuall passions, so that their most secret affaires were frankly participated without any doubting suspicion. But leauing their familiaritie, conuersing in Miloes house: Let vs Gentlemen sée how Terentia brookt his departure. Cornelius Nepos forgets it in Tullies life, but if you will beléeue mée, it was thus.

No sooner were the Senatours and Lentulus departed from Flaminius house, but Flauia and the rest of the Ladies toke leaue of Terentia, who béeing solitarie by hir selfe sitting alone in an arbour of roses, began to ruminate on the Idæa of Lentulus perfection, and to call to minde his seuerall and singular qualities, his parentage, his person, honors, and his great possessions, but all in vaine. Loues poison was preuented with an antidote, and hir thoughts sealed vp with an inuincible chastitie. For after shée had long sate: At last with a smile shée burst forth into these tearmes.

If Venus could not infuse more dismall aspects in other Ladies thoughts, then into my minde, they should neither hold her as a Goddesse, nor honour her temples with presents:

lents: Fonde are those women that are inquisitiue after Astrologers, whether Venus be retrograde, or combust in their natiuities. Had they but tasted the swéte sauour of Vestaes incense, they would abandon her as a planet carelesse in their natinities: and not trouble the Augures or Aruspices, to censure of their fatall or fortunate fancies. For had they but insight into the swéet life of Virgins, how secure they liue, if they liue vertuous, they would neuer intangle themselues with the inconstant snares of fancie. Vesta allowes vs frée thoughts, Venus disquiet passions: at her Alters we haue swéete sleepes, in the other pallace broken slumbers. Diana countervailes our labours with myrth and quiet: in Cypres wœ finde toyle tempered with care and sorrowes. Being virgins we haue libertie: married we tye our selues to the variable disposition of a husband, who be he neuer so excellent in perfection, or exquisite in proportion, we shall finde sufficient whereof to gather dislike. Then Terentia, let Lentulus passe with his honours he hath subdued. What though Alexander wonne the whole world: his glories are but fortunes fauours. Account him then only as thou promised, thy fathers friend and thine as farre as he treates not of wedding: and with this vpon a sodaine shée start vp, and went to passe away the time amongst companie, holding Cupids deity at disdaine, and accounting of loue, as the Samnites did of gold, which they sent as présents to their enemies, but banisht from their owne common wealth. But Flauia poore Ladie, was not pierced with so easie a passion, for shée hauing more deépely imprinted in hir thoughtes, his honours and vertues, and measuring the man by the height of his fortunes, fell into these bitter complaints.

With what litle proportion doth iniurious Loue bestow his fauours? With how small regard doth blinde Fortune powre out her treasures? Making in all their actions, contrarieties, that so they may triumph in inconstancie. Loue hath brought Lentulus from the warres to Rome, onely to sée Terentia. Fortune hath brought Flauia to the house of Flaminius, onely to loue Lentulus, she little regarding him, hée

lightly respecting me. Thus hath the contrariety of Loue and Fortune made Lentulus vnhappy, & me without hope. Ah! but Terentia, though she seeme to coy at the first, will be more curteous at the last, when she hath had but a moneths meditating on the excellencie of Lentulus. Then, oh then sigh Flauia, and say, oh then will Terentia not reiect so honorable a personage: when she considers his youth, his beauty, his parentage, his dignities. Lentulus no sooner shall woe, but she will be wonne. This is the coniecture of her happe, and the dispaire of my hope. And yet it may be that the destinies haue appoynted their disagree. For starres are ticklers in loue, and fates are principal fautors of wedlocke. If my prayers may serue to Venus: if my incense to Cupid, if my vows to Lucina, if my sute to loue, let their loue perish in the bud, and wither in the blossomes. Had I Medeas magicke, the drugges of Calipso, the inchauntments of Circes, the skill of Hecate, all these should be imployed to breake the loue of Terentia, and Lentulus. Fond Flauia, to be so frantick in thy passions: suppose Terentia hated Lentulus, can this conclude, he will loue thee? No, his thoughts are settled, his rest set downe, his vowes made, his fancy fired, and all vpon that beautifull Terentia: I, there Flauia, that is the word that galleth to the beautifull Terentia: For of such surpassing beauty is the Lady, that as Cynthia brookes no compare with her glorious brother: so thou must not enter comparison with the daughter of the Senator Flaminius. But, what is this to Lentulus? If she be faire, yea as faire as euer was Sulpitia: if she be as coy, and disdainfull as Cælia, had he not better loue homely Flauia, who will counteruaile with loue, what thee wants in beautie, & proportion out in duety, what thee defects in dignitie. But what of this, loue admits no exceptions, he cannot mislike ought in Terentia. Doth not present examples, yea instãces executed in Rome auerre so much? Is not Anthonio enamoured of the blacke Egiptian Cleopatra. Doth not Cæsar enuy him in his loues, and couets to be corriual of his fancies. Affection is oft blind and dæmeth not rightly. The blackest Ebon is brighter then the whitest Iuory: and Venus thought Vulcan at the first

a proper

a proper stripling: Were Terentia neuer so coy, Lentulus will count her disdaine but chastitie: yet Flauia pray then she may liue in this mislike, then hast thou yet some cause to hope, otherwise weepe thy fill, dispaire, and then die, for sweeter is death, then to liue and see Lentulus enioy the loue of Terentia. Hauing at this period breathed a while, readie to goe forward in passions, one of her waiting women came in, who breaking off hir complaints, passt away the rest of the day in prattle. Leauing her therefore and her maide at chat, againe to Lentulus, who tooke such inward griefe at this new conceited loue, that his colour began to wax pale, and to discouer passions, his sighes many and often to bewraie his sorrows, his suddaine starts in his sleeps, and his musings surcharged with melancholie. These noted by Tully his priuate friend, made him coniecture that somwhat was amisse with Lentulus. Hauing therefore fit oportunitie, he began to sift him in this manner.

The ancient Gretians (sweete Lentulus) that set downe principles of friendeship, account the secret conuersing of friendes, and their mutuall participating, either of priuate sorrowes, or concealed pleasures, the principall end of such professed amitie. Therefore did Theseus choose Pirithous, Orestes Pylades, to that ende, or else you wrong me, serues Tully to his Lentulus. If then it be requisite in friendship to abandon suspitious secrecie, I cannot but take it vnkindly, that Tully is not made partaker of Lentulus passions. For as the Carbuncle is not hid in the darke, nor the fire shut vp in straw, so sorrowes cannot so couertly be concealed, but the countenance will pourtray out the cause by the effects. Thinke me not then so blind, but I can iudge of colours, nor so simple, but I can deeme of affections: what meane these farre fetcht sighes, broken slumbers, this newe delight, to be solitarie, but that Lentulus feeling a passion that pierceth to the quick, yet seekes to keepe it secret from his friend Tully? knowe this my good Lentulus, that smoke depressed, stifleth more deadly: That the Ouen the closer, it is damd vp, the greater is the heate: and passions, the more priuate, the more preiudiciall. Stop not then the streame, least it ouer-

flow

flow. Conceale not sorrowes, least they ouercharge, and proue like woundes, that kept long from the Chirurgian, growe to be incureable vlcers: If it be a Fathers frowne, an enemies wrong, a friendes mishap, reueale it, and seeke remedy. If Lentulus griefes haue left his honours in Parthia, feare not, Rome will haue more warres, and Lentulus new dignities. If the Senatours haue dealt ingratefully: *Solemen miseris socios habuisse doloris*. The most famous Romanes haue forerunne thée in such hard fortunes. Scipio subdued Affrica, what his reward was, let our annualls report. If Lentulus mislikes ought in Rome, let him abandon Rome, and Tullie will banish himselfe from his countrey to with his friend Lentulus. If since thy comming into this storehouse of natures prodigalitie, thine eye hath made suruaie of any gorgeous Damsell, and so (my Lentulus) be in loue, although wisdome willes to hide amors euen from amitie, and to tie fancie in the lowest cell of the heart, yet reueale it to thy friend Tullie, and if any way bée may ease his Lentulus passions, he vowes to salue thy sore, though with the hazarde of his owne safety. Lentulus hearing his friend leuell so néere the marke, gaue a great grone at the name of loue, and fetching a déepe sigh said, *Ætna grauius Amor*. And with that, starting from the place where he sat, taking Tullie by the hande, began thus:

Were it (my Tullie) that my passions had any hope of remedy, or that my wounde were such as might be cured by counsell, long ere this had Lentulus powred his plaints into the bosome of his friend Cicero: but my sorrowes, as they are piercing, so I haue kept them priuate, as hopping for no ease, and yet delighting in my martyrdome. The bird flieth the snare of the fouler: No sooner doth the woodman bend his bowe, but the Déere trips through the lawnes: euery creature is taught by nature to feare his fall, and yet wretched Lentulus hunteth after his owne mishap. So haue I described the fury of my passions, as I can not but say, it is loue that is thus impatient. Loue (my Tullie) that is such a lord, as insinuating his power with fauour, he keepes possession by force. Wars haue their ends, either honors or death,

and

and in battaile, prowesse oft makes constraint of fortune: but in loue, delay is the vnhappy deathsman, that holding thee vp, neither saues nor kils. Since my comming to Rome (my Tullie) coueting to conuerse with beautifull Ladies as before I had done with martiall souldiers, amongst many curious Pearles, I found one Orient Margarite richer then those which Cæsar brought from the western shores of Europe: so long I gased at the beautie of this pretious Iem, that I found my selfe gald with such affection, as well repeate I might, but recall I could not: and for thou shalt say shee is loue worthie, heare how in discribing her excellencie, I haue plaide the Poet,

Lentulus description of Terentia in Latin.

Qualis in aurora splendescit lumine Titan,
Talis in eximio corpore forma fuit:
Lumina seu spectes radiantia, siue capillos,
Lux Ariadne tua & lux tua Phœbe iacet.
Venustate fuit verbis, spirabat odorem,
Musica vox, nardus spiritus almus erat:
Rubea labra, genæ rubra, faciesque decora,
In qua concertant lilius atque rosa,
Luxuriant geminæ formoso in pectore mammæ,
Circundant niueæ caudida colla comæ:
Denique talis erat diuina Terentia, quales
Quondam certantes, Iuno, Minerua, Venus.

Thus in English

BRightsome *Apollo* in his richest pompe,
was not like to the tramels of her haire:
Her eyes like *Ariadnes* sparkling starres,
Shone from the Ebon Arches of her browes.
Her face Was like the blushing of the east,
when *Titan* chargde the morning Sun to rise:
Her cheekes rich strewd with roses and with white,
did stayne the glorie of *Anchises* loue.

Her siluer teates did robbe and slow delight,
Her necke columnes of polisht ivory.
Her breath was perfumes made of violets,
And all this heauen was but Terentia.

NO sooner had Lentulus ended his well written Poem, and concluded his cunning with the name of his mistresse, but Tully hearing Terentia, was the saint at whose shrine Lentulus offred vp his deuotion, entring his *Exordium* with a smile, he began to be thus pleasant.

Shall there no fruit wil serue your taste but such as growe in the Gardens Hesperides, nor no colour content your eye, but such as is stained by the fish Murex. Must your senses be fed with nothing but that is excellent, nor your loue haue no meane but to aime at the fairest? What Terentia? the beauty of Rome? the pride of nature? the wealth of all the fauouring graces, whose excellencies are spred through the triple deuision of the worlde? I see (my Lentulus) louers haue eies, as they haue hands, and thoughtes as they haue weapons, and that how bluntly soeuer brought vp in the warres, yet they are curious in the choise of their loues. Well, be it, Lentulus loues Terentia, an honour to set his fancie on her, but he kept his loue secret from Tully, a fault to be suspicious of his friend. But why grieues Lentulus? Is not his parentage greater then the house of Flaminius? Is not his honours sufficient to countervaile her beauties? Why then is he so impatient in so agreeable a passion? Lentulus vpon this discoursed vnto Tully, from point to point, the successe of his loues, how he gaue his charge ouer to Tepidus, only that he might haue a sight of Terentia, and then recounting what prattle had past betweene him and her after dinner, Her coy answeres, and firme resolution to remaine chaste, craued counsell howe he might ease the disquiet of his thoughts. Tully pitying the extreame passion of his friend, deuised sundry meanes how to make him Lord of his desires. But after the discourse of sundry plottes, it was decreed, that Lentulus should write vnto Terentia. Lentulus despairing of his owne stile and methode, requested Tully to write him

a letter passionate, and full of familiar eloquence, which at his request, Cicero contrined after this manner: where by the way (Gentlemen) I am to craue you to thinke, that Terentia kept the copy secret, so that neither it can be found amongst Lentulus lose papers, nor in the familiar Epistles of Cicero. If the phrase differ from his other excellent forme of writting, imagine he sought to couer his stile, and in his pen rather to play the blunt souldier, than the curious Orator, neyther vsing those *verborum fulmina*, that Papirius obiects, nor that sweete and musicall cadence of wordes, which he vseth to Atticus, but howsoeuer, or whatsoeuer, thus it was.

Lentulus, Terentiæ salutem.

QVod natura in venustatis & formæ tuæ Idea formauit (suauissima Terentia) nullo modo silentio præterire possum. Ne cum nimis cautus amoris ignem celare conarer, incautus tanquam Ætna meipsum consumens, in cineres redigar. Cum inter Parthos versarer, nihil nisi bellum & arma cogitans, à Roma vsque formæ tuæ pulchritudo, morumque integritas à multis sæpe nunciata est, Cuius rei fama & iucunditate aures meas permulsit, vt (fyrenum quasi cantu delectatus,) arma abiicere & amorem sequare cæperim, meque totum in Terentiæ potestatem tradere non erubescerem. Diuina autem excellentia tua cogitatio, eos mihi pro tempore in bellicis negotijs addidit animos, vt breui deuictis & profligatis Parthis, totam hanc prouinciam Lepido commiserim, quem, vnum atque omnium honoris, tum fortunæ meæ participem feci, Parthisq; relictis Romamque reuisi, vt iucundissimo fructus, tum asperrimus, tum consuetudinis tuæ frui liceat. Forma vero & pulchritudine tua dignitas, tanta vtique excellens fuit, vt non modo famam, sed expectationem meam longè superarit. Vnde exquisitam tuam perfectionem, ortusq; contemplans, & singulares animi dotes auribus accipiens, excellentiæ tuæ Ideam in me pectore collocaui, magnæ totum amori, quæ constringendum tradidi. Cum igitur tua vnius causa (suauissima Terentia) famam, fortunasque & me ipsum procacerim, verum amantis officium fac præstes, & me nonpoeniteat, sed amore tuo quietare, vt iam ora in me retundens, ego in omni officio tibi satisfaciam. Vale mea & parentes

rentes, quos tandem bonos ciues & senatores fuisse constat: taceo triumphos, qui quales fuerint Capitolium populiisque Romanus locupletissimi sunt testes, de diuitijs non glorior, quas tamen mediocres esse constat, sed virtutis vim & amoris constantiam tibi propono, quæ nec parui facienda, nec ingratitudine compensanda sunt. Me igitur fac redames (mea Terentia) & pulchritudinis comitatem coniungens, parentibus gaudeo, amicis vtilitati, & Lentulo voluptati esse possis. Non disertè, vt Orator, sed, peramenter, vt imperator tibi scribo, quod si amicis fidem, Lentulo amorem tribuas, vt parentibus gaudio amori nostro consentire digneris, de patris voluntate nihil est quod dubites: sed si alieno amore non nostro delecteris, dolores meos & augebo, & celabo, & quamcunque in partem te flexeris tibi tum vitam tranquillam, tum mortem gloriosam, vt fideliss. amator exoptabo. Vale, plus oculis mihi dilecta Terentia, & me tui desiderio iam pene languentem, aut ames citò, aut oderis semper, vale, & rescribe.

Lentulus to Terentia, health.

I Cannot (swéet soueraigne of my thoughts, and chiefe mirrour of our Romane excellencie) smother that with silence which nature hath figured in the portraiture of my lookes, vnlesse kéeping the flame to secret, I should, like Ætna, consume to cinders. When seated amongst the Parthians, hauing nothing in my thoughts, but warres and stratagems, thy beauty was repeated as speciall newes from Rome, amongst the Legions, the melody séemed so pleasing to my eares, as if the musicke of the Syrens had inchaunted my senses. I ceased from warres, to thinke of loue, and from loue to doate on the conceit of Terentia. The thoughts of thy excellency doubled such courage in my attempts, that I conquered the Parthians, yéelding vppe my charge to Lepidus, made him partaker of my honors, and fortunes, and came to Rome, onely to sée Terentia, whose sight was so beauteous, and so farre beyond the report of fame, that mine eies surueying exquisitely thy perfections, and mine eares censuring of thy wit and vertues, both in league conspired to present the Idea of thy selfe to the contemplation of my hart, which

greedily intertaining such rare beauties, hath euer since remained a poore distressed captiue. With then Terentia, thy Lentulus hath left his fortunes to folow fancy, and hath forsaken the warres to win thy loues, holding thée more deare than country honour: shew thy selfe a Romane Lady, that striuing in minde to be matchlesse, thou mayest be more prodigall in fauours, then I worthy in deserts, and yéelde mée such méede for my loue, as Lentulus for his loyalty doth merite. I boast not of my parents, they are cittizens, and of the Senate with my father. I speake not of mine honours, the Capitol can witnesse what showts passed from the Romans as victors: what teares from the Parthians as vanquished: both these passions growing from the fortunes of Lentulus. My reuenews are such as satisfie my desires. But all these are externall fauours, which though I rehearse, yet I brag not of. But the constancie of my loue, and the loyalty of my thoughts: these (Terentia) are gifts of the minde, deseruing no light esteeme, much lesse to be requited with ingratitude. Consider then (sweete goddesse) the sinceritie of mine affections, weigh howe Lentulus loues, and so vse him in loue, measure his fortunes by his fancies. As thou art beautifull, so vse iustice, giue euery one his due: Honors to the gods, reuerence to thy father, faith to thy friend, and loue to Lentulus, and if it please thée to grace me with the title to thy husband Lentulus: for I couet to like honestly, not to loue wantonly. I write (Terentia) as a souldier without eloquence, and as a louer, without flattery, if thou satisfie my loue with thy fauours, I doubt not to seale vp thy content with thy fathers and friends agrée. If either thou art tyed to former loues, or mislikest of mine, I will close vp my sorrowes with silence. Howsoeuer it shall please thée to returne answere: liue with content, and die with honour.

Terentias new intertained souldier
Publius Cornelius Lentulus.

If (gentlemen) I haue not translated Lentulus letter *verbatim*, word for word, let mée, in mine owne excuse yéeld these reasons,

reasons, that neither the familiar phrase of the Romanes can brooke our harsh manner of sentences, nor durst I attempt to wrest Tullies eloquence to my rude and barbarous English: fearing, either to wrong so worthy an Orator, in displacing, or rather disgracing his phrase: or in too far presuming, purchase your frowne, which I haue euer in all duties sought to auoide. But howsoeuer my translation seemes wrested, I haue kept his. And so to Lentulus, who hearing Tullie reade the epistle, both conceited the methode, and allowed of the manner: Onely carefull where to get a fit and conuenient messenger. Tully at last called to remembrance one Eutrapelus, an especiall friend of his, who frequented the house of Flaminius: by him did Lentulus send the letter, and so liuing in hope of a happie answere, he left Tully in his studie, and went to the Capitoll. Cicero no sooner was by himselfe, but calling to mind, the discription of Terentia, set out with such excellency by Lentulus in his new learned poetry, & weighing how all Rome wondred at her beauties, began to feele certaine sparkes of loue kindled in his yong desires, which made him blush at his owne thoughtes, and smile that fancie should lie lurking amongst his librarie, to take him at discouert. But allone as he remembred, that Lentulus was in loue with hir, the faith to his friend, was a roling card to his affections, and he quenched those sparkes at the first, least suffered, they may grow to a great flame: yet was he maugre his head forced to say thus much.

Hast thou liued fortunate, and fauoured in Rome? hath honour raised thee from a meane cottage, to be a companion to the sonnes of Senators? Doe the Consuls make thee for thy learning one of the Prætors? and wilt thou for the hope of foolish beautie staine all thy fauours and fortunes with disgrace? May rather Tully, it will be honour to wed the daughter of so famous a Romaine: but shame to thee, to take the repulse and be denied. Thinkest thou Terentia will loke so lowe? will Eagles catch at Flies? will the wonder of our time, the paragon of our age, allied to the noblest houses in Rome, make choyce of so base and meane a person?

What

What hast thou to deserue hir loue, any more then a little babling eloquence. Womens eares are not their touchstones, but their eies, they see and make choyse, not heare and fancie. A dram of honour weighes downe a pound of wit, and better it is to court with welthy reuenewes, then with sweete lines, or fine couched poemes. Thou hast nothing left but a poore farme called Cumanum, whose rents quites not the charges of thy studies. But suppose thou couldest win Terentia, suffice shee is loued by Lentulus: and therefore from this day name hir not in thy mouth, nor weare hir in thy thoughts, least thou violate friendship, which thou ought'st to prise dearer then life. Thus Tully appeasing his passions went out of his studie, and willed Eutrapelus to deliuer the letter with secrecy: who being one of Tullies chiefe familiars, went with all speede to the house of Flaminius, where finding the Ladie Terentia sitting with Flauia and Cornelia at worke, he being *homo facetus*, began merily to commend their huswifery, and after some iestes broken betwixt the gentlewomen and him, he craueth to speake with Terentia about certaine serious affaires that greatly imported hir father: Whereupon shee rising and going with Eutrapelus into her closet, he there deliuered vnto hir Lentulus letter. Terentia abashed at the sight, blushed as halfe angry with Eutrapelus, that he made himselfe messenger of so daine a matter: yet considering it came from so honorable a personage as Lentulus, shee vouchsafed it, and wisht Eutrapelus in the euening to come for an answere. He was no sooner departed, but Terentia vnripped the seales, and then red the contents, which being contrarie to hir resolution, shee determined to returne with a denial. But for that shee would make hir friends priuie to hir new loues passions, shee went smiling in, and shewed them the letter. Vpon poore Lentulus plainsong they all began to deskant. Cornelia praysing Terentias fortunes that was so entyrely beloued of so honorable and braue a Gentleman, but Flauia hung the lip, and saying little, onely askt, what a louing answere shee would write. I know not how to reply quoth Terentia, hee hath written so eloquently, and so cunningly. But quoth Flauia,

I durſt paſſone my credit it was written by young Tullie, that braue Orator: For I haue read ſome of his Epiſtles, and tis both his Methode, and his very phraſe. That Tullie, quoth Terentia whom I haue heard my Father and the Senators ſo highly commend for his witte, thinking him to excede either Craſſus, or Hortenſius: and with that ſitting downe, they began to enter into diſcourſe of Tullies excellencies, concluding all, that he was as ſingular amongſt the Romaines, as euer Demoſthenes was amongſt the Grecians. At laſt Terentia remembring her ſelfe, toke leaue for a while of hir two friendes, and ſtealing into hir cloſet, ſtepping to the ſtandish, ſhe was about to write, but calling to minde the diſcourſe of Tullies perfection, letting fall hir pen, ſhe fell into a paſſion. Cupid waiting to ſpie this veſtall at aduantage, ſeing hir halfe at diſcouert, vnloſde a bolt, headed with Deſire, & feathered with Conceit, which piercing the tender breaſt of this young Damoſell, he made hir ſhrinke at the blow, and ſo breath out this complaint.

Hath thou (Terentia) beene wonderd at in Rome for deſpiſing loue, and wilt thou now (doting girle) ſtumble on deſire, ſhall fancie eclips all thy former glories, ſhall Veſta leſe a virgin, and Venus win a wanton? Wilt thou reſemble the buddes of an elder tree, which young, are ſweet and holſome, but blomde forth, are bitter and preiudiciall, thinke with thy ſelfe, that Dianaes ſhrubs are more pleaſant then Cupids bowers, the one harbours chaſt thoughts, the other amorous fancies. Truth, but Lucina is a goddeſſe, loue is diuine, and mariage honorable. Cedars are faire, but in yelding no fruite they purchaſe the leſſe eſteeme. To bee a virgin, is a glorious title, but to liue euer ſo, is to wrong nature in hir fauours. Well, hath thou not then (Terentia) a noble gentleman of Rome, Lord Lentulus to be thy huſband, a man whoſe youth is filled with honours, and whoſe ſpring time flouriſheth with dignities? hath he not triumpht ouer the Parthians in conqueſt, and bound fortune to his temples with wreaths of victorie? Is not his parentage one of the greateſt families in Rome? Is he not for beautie like the faire Grecks paramour? For wiſedome like to Vliſſes,

that

that Cyrces could not inchant? For courage Hector? and of such reuenewes as may maintain thee with the most gorgeous dames of Italie? But the chiefe of his graces, is he not enamored of Terentia, and sues for hir fauour? This I confesse, *Sed deteriora sequor*. Loue, ah that folish passion which we tearme loue, allowes nothing excellent, but what it likes. It shadowed beggarie in Crates. For Hypsycratea thought him rich, in that he was vertuous: deformitie in Vulcan, for Venus would not beleeue he had a poult foote. Loue hath no lacke, and lesse reason: yet must I loue, and whom; ah Tully, sweete Tully, from whose mouth flowes melody, more inchaunting then the Syrens, on whose lips the Muses make a new Parnassus, in whose thoughts rest Platoes diuine spirites, and in whose head is contained the subtill wit of Aristotle. Is not he as glorious in Rome for his eloquence, as thou for thy beauties? Doth not the Senatours wonder at his learning, as at thy perfection? Why should not then both our singularities be linked in the vnion of Loue? why should not Terentia liue to Tullie, and Tullie to Terentia? Ah but he is base, the first of his kin that tasted of honour. I but he is vertuous, and famous for his eloquence, graces that counteruaile the meannesse of his parents. I see loue hath reasons, being out of reason still to argue against reason, therfore without further *pro & contra* in mine owne passions, I will loue Tullie, and therfore thus to Lentulus. With that taking vp hir pen, shee wrote him this answere.

Terentia to Lentulus, health.

When I read (Lord Lentulus) thy letters, & spied thy loues, I blusht at mine owne thoughts and sorrowed at thy fortunes. I search not the cause of thy loue, for it sufficeth to me thou doest loue, if it lay in me, either to grant thy desire, or satisfie thy passions. Thy reasons are sufficient to moue, were it not, my vowe and my destinies direct my minde to contrary thy affections. Thy honours (Lentulus) knockes at the closet of my heart, thy victories sue for their

lords libertie, thy loyaltie enters pele mele wyth my thoughtes, and giueth a sore assault to my setled resolution, all these put in their pleas to purchase fauour for young Lentulus. But Vesta, harde harted Vesta, that makes her virgins pliant to her owne properties, commaunds that I shut mine eares against such alluring Syrens. I count my selfe greatly honoured with the loue of so worthy a Romane, and euer will Terentia couet to prooue as thankefull as he affectionate, onely in loue pardon me, for that either I neuer mean to loue, or if I doe loue, my thoughtes were fired before Lentulus came from Parthia. Wade not there where the ford hath no footing, bark not with the Wolues of Syria against the Moone, looke not to climbe to Olimpus, way not at impossibilities, but pacifie that with patience, which thou canst not obtaine, which being passionate. If thou suest to my father, and he graunt to conclude a marriage, yet shalt thou want a bride: For I will first die before I violate my resolution. Seeke not then by my preiudice to aime at thy owne content, which be it euery way, yet it shall neuer be in my loue: not that I hate Lentulus, but that my fortunes forbids me to loue Lentulus. If thou thinkest these denials be but words of course, and perswadest thy selfe that women wil be first coy, and then courteous, as the marble, that drops of raine doe pierce. Thou shalt deepely deceiue thy selfe, and highly wrong me, but I challenge thy promise, that howsoeuer I frustrate thy expectation, thou wilt bury thy conceite in silence. In which hope grieuing that thy showers came in Autumme, I wish quiet to thy thoughts, and an end to thy loues.

Thine euer but in loue,
Terentia.

TErentia hauing thus ended her letter and newe begun her loues, the one directed to Lentulus, the other deuoted to Tully, she went straight to her two friendes, Cornelia and Flauia, shewing them the contents of the letter. Cornelia said she was to seuere and stoicall, in sending such a peremp-

torie

torie answere to so braue a gentleman. Flauia ouercharged with ioy, praising the resolution of Terentia, wishing that all maides were of her minde, misliking that which shee most loued, thinking by retreating Terentia from the chace, to be mistresse of the game her selfe. Well, this letter at last was sealed, and deliuered to Eutrapelus, who hying him fast to Tullies lodging, found Lentulus and him in secret, and serious discourse, and all god wote was about Terentia. Lentulus hauing receiued the letter, entring with Tully into his study, read the contents. No sooner had he viewed, and reviewed ouer her cruell determination, but in great extasie of minde, he cryed out (*Dulcior est mors quam Amor.*) And with that flinging out of his study, he fell into bitter and extream sorrowes. Tully greeuing at his friends hard fortune, sought with plausible perswasions to appease his furious melancholy, wishing him whatsoeuer Terentia wrote, still to thinke her a woman that would one while thrust out fancie with a finger, and streight intertaine loue as a friend: that either time or his constancie would make hir stoope to the lure of his desires. Thus sought Tully to wrest him from his passions, but in vaine, for her resolution confirmde with such effectual and perswasiue determinations, so quatted the conceit of his former hope, that going passing melancholy to his bed, he fell into an extreame feuer, which aggrauated with the inward anguish of his mind, grew to be so dangerous, that Asclapo the Phisition, excellent at that time for his facultie, iudged the disease to be mortall. The Senators hearing of Lentulus sickneſſe, sorrowed, as fearing Rome by death should bee depriued of such high ensuing hope: his friends flocked to his lodging to visit him, who noting the heate of the ague, and the passions of his minde, his sodaine starts, his gash lookes, and his abrupt answeres, iudged the extremitie of his sickneſſe had halfe brought him to a lunacie, all seeking by counsell to cure that which neither counsell nor medicine could mitigate. Frustrate of their expectation, they wished his weale, and returned with griefe. Onely Tully, whose setled friendship no misfortune could remoue, still day and night, as a second Esculapius, waited vpon this

perplexed patient. But as the deapth of his passion pierced into the center of his heart, so the feuer increased, that generally, Rome began to sorrow, so braue a warriour should be cut off in the verie prime of his fortunes: insomuch that the report of his sicknes came to the eares of the thrée Ladies. Terentia made light account, as hauing hir heart hardned with the loue of Cicero: but Flauia grew passing passionate, as béeing toucht at the quicke, with the weake disposition of Lentulus, wishing he might haue cure for his maladie, so it were not by the means of Terentia: shée frequented the temples, offred orizons, made vowes, and burnt incense to the Gods, that they would bee fauorable to hir louer Lentulus, coueting (if possible it might be) with the preiudice of hir selfe to haue profited him: but in vaine, Terentia was resolute, and he was resolued: as shée was daintie, so to dye in dispaire. Flauia, if hir modestie might haue permitted, would haue accompanied with other Ladies gone to his lodging, but the rights of Vesta forbidding such familiar conuersing, shée rather was restrained by force, then withheld by reason. But séeing shée could by no meanes come to his sight, yet to manifest the sinceritie of hir loue, shée sent him a letter to this effect.

Flauia to Lentulus, health.

IF I could (Lord Lentulus) pourtray with outward actions, the secretie of my passions, or force as many teares from mine eyes, as there flie sighes from my heart: The anatomie of my thoughtes would discouer a disquiet mind, and the source of mine eyes a fountaine of bitter laments. But séeing that barrels, the fuller they bee, the lesse sounde they yéeld: and where the current is deepest, there the water is most still: and the mind surcharged with extreams, hath least vtterance of griefe, I leaue you to suppose of my sorrowes which I cannot manifest. But know (Lord Lentulus,) that when the report of your sicknes came to the eares of your new intertained friends, Terentia sighed, as pitying with a common passion the ill of hir countryman, but as one that

might

might not releeue, being intercepted with other loues. Cornelia chid, as holding your selfe in highest estæme, alleaging reasons to her that admitted no reasons, but her owne loue which is without reason. My selfe forrowed, as wishing desert should haue his due, where the honour of the man merits no lesse: we perswaded in vain, & in seeking to bring Terentia to the bay, we indeuoured to quench fire with swordes. Seeing then your thoughts leuell at a wrong marke, and that no sutes can diuert her from her froward conceipt: in careleſſe extreams, vse patience, wrestle with loue, being wronged by loue: yeeld not to the arrest of Cupids mace, but as hee is young, so hold him a boy. Consider, as Terentia is faire, so she is cruell: and as she is full of fauour, so she is too too vnkind.

Flie not with Apollo after Daphnis: Diana hath more Nymphs as chaste, and yet not so coy: vse loue (my Lentulus) as children do puppies, which while they are pliant and gentle, they cherish vp with crummes, but when they ware churlish, they beate away with stroakes. Thinke Rome is the mistresse of the world, and hath many faire dames, if not of such excellencie as Terentia, yet are they more courteous, and no lesse vertuous. The curious Herbalists measure not the plants by their colours, but by their properties: the Lapidaries make estæme of their stones, not by their outward hue, but by their secret vertues. Vse then the ancient custom of Esculapius, let lillies wither on the stalke, and weare violets in thy hand, the one faire and vnsauory, the other black, but of swæte verdure. Let these counsells (Lentulus) comfort thee, apply them not as outward plaisters, but as inwarde potions: which if they profit, none shall be more glad than Flauia, who wisheth (if she might in this hard extreame) to discouer the honor of her thoughts, and the resolution of a friend: if aught rests in me that may pleasure Lentulus, commaund it of Flauia, as one knowing Lentulus desires are wholy honorable. Thus praying thou mayest haue ease in thy passions, through end of thy loues, I will offer sacrifice for thy health, as she that feares hir owne preiudice, without thy recouery.

Thine, Flauia of Rome.

No sooner had Flauia ended her letter, but shée sealed it, and sent it away, and with as much speede as might bée, it was conueied to Lentulus, who reading the superscription, and perceiuing it came from a woman, supposing it was sent from Terentia, started vp in his bed, and rent open the seales: when hee had read the contents, and saw it came from Flauia, noting the extremitie of her loue by the plaine discouery of her passions: he said to himselfe.

Vniust loue that settles thy thoughts in crossing with contraries. Some thou piercest with desire, other with disdain: infusing sundry effects in diuers affects, I court Terentia, and shée is cruell: Flauia fauours thée, and thou art tyed to others loues. What rests in these extreames, but to curse fancie, that maketh such a confused Chaos of his follies. Oppose then reason against affection, and admit not of loues conclusions, vnlesse they bée approued principles. Thy thoughts are deuoted to Terentia, and shée onely vouchsafes thée the verdict of his eares. Thou art more honorable then shée, of richer renewes then his dowrie can satisfie, hauing as many deserts, as shée hath beauties: and yet coy dame as shée is, shée twits thée with Vesta, when God wote Venus is the goddesse that heareth his orisons. If thou hast this insight into his thoughts, why wrongst thou thy selfe with such carelesse passions? If shée be so ramage, let his flie and seeke for a Mistresse that may proue more gentle: Let his glorie like Narcissus in his beauties: Loue can chastice if it be but with selfe loue. Vse no phisicke Lentulus, but the consideration of his frowardnesse. Let the drugs of Apollo serue for others, not for thée. Thrust out fancie by force, and setting Terentia at light esteeme, make choice of Flauia: though shée be not so beautiful, yet shée is second to his in graces, and farre beyond his in curtesies. Tie not thy selfe Lentulus so strictly to a womans face, beautie is but times flower, that as it is delicate, so it soone withereth: Like the colours that Phydias drew in his pictures, which shewing most glorious to the eye, was yet blemisht with euery breath. Venus was faire and wanton: Helen the myracle of Greece, but aske Troy of his qualities. Ah but Terentia is as chast, as shée is beautifull.

So

So is Flauia to, and far more louing. Her birth is of higher discent, her wealth more, her vertues no lesse: but her love such as may challenge thy affection for debt. Ah but Lentulus, yet Terentia her excellency is more then can be shaken off with so slight reasons: and with that he shrunke downe into his bedde falling to his old complaints: yet did this letter of Flauia somewhat comfort him, and he found it his best physicke. But leaving him in his bed, againe to Terentia, who felte the disquiet of her minde as restlesse. For the Senatours daily repairing to her fathers house, had no other table talke but of the eloquence of Tully, some commending his witte, other his studie, some his vertues, but all his speciall gifts of nature, that they put oyle into the flame, and with these praises so set on fire Terentiaes fancy, as nothing tumbled in her thoughts but the excellency of Cicero: being so impatient, as she sought by all meanes possible to come to his sight, and to fre her eye with that wherewith she had inchaunted her eares, finding no readie way to attaine the end of her desires, vntil loue, that like Mercury is ful of shifts and subtlety, deuised this plot. Tullie being borne in a little village adioyning vnto Rome called Arpinatum, vsed often to make his intercourse betweene the towne and the cittie for his pleasure: Which Terentia hauing learned out, thought the fittest meanes to haue a sight of her Cicero. So that one day, to take the aire, accompanied with her two friends, Flauia and Cornelia, hauing but a page to attende vpon them, shee walked abroad into the fields. Passing thus in merry chatte towards Arpinatum, hauing some glances at the sicknes of Lentulus, they had not walked aboue a mile before Flauia spied Tully comming fro Arpinatum to Rome. Assone as she had discried him, and for certaintie knew that it was he: ponder quoth shee comes that odde man of Rome, that excellent Orator Marcus Tullius Cicero, so highly renowned through all our prouinces for his eloquence: now shall we heare from Lentulus, for they are the most familiar friends, and priuate companions in Rome. Terentia at this as one wakened out of a dreame, gaue a start, and casting vp her eye, espied the Paramoure of her thoughts, which droue

her into such an extasie, that surcharged with ouer much ioy, she felt an vnacquainted trēbling in her ioynts. Being thus perplexed, Tully drawing nye, and seeing Terentia accompanied with her friend Flauia, gaue thankes to opportunitie, that she had so highly fauoured his friend Lentulus, as that he might now plead for his safety. Tully thus incountering those three Romane damosels after a curteous Salue which made Terentia blush, he began thus to borde them.

The place (sweet Romanes) so aptly agreeing to the person, this valley resembling Idas, and Rome Troy, I cannot but bath with Paris at the sight of three such goddesses, whose deitie surpassed those the shepheard iudicially suruayed with his eye: Humbly therefore saluting you as Dianaes darlings and beauties wonder, seeing so small a traine for such excellent personages, although my affaires be serious and of importance, yet please it you vouchsafe of my seruice, I will attend on your walkes, and conduct you to Rome. Terentia feeding her eyes on the sweete of Tullies face, and swilling downe the nectar of his diuine eloquence, staining her cheeks with such a die, as did the faire queen of Carthage, courted by Æneas, she made him this answere.

How you make compare (Cicero) of this valley, with the plaines of Troy, as litle skilld in Geography, or read in Homers Iliads, I leaue without reply. For the goddesses that Paris incountred, we are equal with them in number, though far inferiour to them in beauty. For your seruice we accept it, and for your wages, you shall haue gracious lookes, and heartie thankes. Seeing therefore we are merily minded, supposing your selfe to be the shepheard, which of vs shall be your Venus? Not you maddame quoth Terentia aboue all the rest: And why so quoth Terentia? because (quoth Tullie) the least flie hath his splene, the smallest Ant her gall, no haire so little but hath his shadowe, and no man so meane but he hath his enuie: Why then (quoth Terentia) I wil discard you from the office of Paris, as a man partiall. But I pray thee (Cicero) wherein shuld I offend thee, hauing neuer seene thee before? In this, quoth he, that Lentulus hath seene you: with that she blusht, and Flauia and Cornelia fell into a great

great laughter that Tullie had so roughly crosst her ouer the thumbs. Tullie prosecuting his purpose went forward thus. Foreknowe madam, that Lentulus the richest Trophæ that fortune sets vp in the Theatre of honour, made shipwracke of his libertie for the report of your beautie, leauing the wars, and the great hope of his fortunes, to haue a sight of Terentia, vnkinde, not like Venus in curtesie, though in fauours, haue counterpoysed his fancie with mislike, and for the honie of his amorous thoughts haue powred him downe heapes of bitter and displeasing gall. The crueltie of Cressida neuer animated so the hardy Troilus, as the frown of Terentia hath pierst Lentulus, making so deepe a wound, as no phisicke can cure, onely your sweete selfe, whose resolutions are so farre from the properties of your face, as it seemes the gods wrongd nature, in placing an adamant heart within a christall couerture. The Ladies hearing Tullie so sharpe, bit the lip, and Terentia grieued: angry she could not be as one that was ouer the shoes in affection, but thus shee cutte him off.

I cannot iudge (Cicero) by your sharpe and peremptory inuectiues, vpon so final acquaintance, but you professe your selfe a Cinicke. If your philosophie be such, I will breake the blowes aswell as Alexander, and thinke nothing ill that is spoken from Diogenes. Howsoeuer, or whatsoeuer Cinike, or stoicke, I argue thus against Lentulus, that vowes made to Vesta, are to be holden inuiolated, and resolutions to liue a virgin are not to be broken with marriage. Cornelia and Flauia hearing them thus farre in by the eares, walked a little aside, and left Tullie to schoole Terentia: who maintained hir arguments thus. Suppose (Tully) it were not chast thoghts but newe loues that forced me to this refusal: haue not trees their strings, and women their fancies and affections? If his Autumne showers comming to late, cause not his crops to proue, whats that to me? Loue consisteth in vnitie: the hart hath but one string, the heauen one sunne, and the Iris one propertie, and women but one loue, and that I tell thee Tullie, is placed on one that is as famous for his vertues, as Lentulus for his wealth and dignities. And what then shall

I giue, or be rightly challenge? Tully, although he conceiued in his thoughts, that Terentia yelded great reason: yet he would not giue ouer the chase so, but made this reply. Ah but madame, haue an insight into the depth of his affections, how he aimes not at your treasures, hoping to be inriched by your great dowrie. For Lentulus is of the welthiest familie in Rome, but leuels at your vertues, the Syrens against whom he could not vse Vlisses policie. If affection be but a little past, if loue haue but drawne one line in your thoughts with his pensell, wrastle with fancie, blot out loues shadowes, and helpe Lentulus: who, if you remaine so cruell shall be no more Lentulus. If he die for loue, how shall the stretes swarme with statues of his constancie? If you be knowne the chiefe actor of the tragedie, how will the people murmure of your crueltie? Weigh this madame, I speake as a familiar of Lentulus, and no enemie of Terentias honor. If he be a Romane that Terentia loues, let him either be more honourable, more valiant, more affable, more excellent euery way then Lentulus, nay more louing then the poore gentleman, else discarde him for a man insufficient to talk of Terentias beautie, or to be corriual with Lentulus in his loue. Terentia had yelded at this fierce assault, had not Loue laid an instance before her of her resolution. For the more Tully pleaded for his friend, the more was Terentia enamored: so that she made him this answere.

If I knew how to certifie Lentulus of this daies discourse, he should highly reward you for playing so well the Orator. But I maruell Cicero, that being young, and of such eloquence, we heare not of your loues: I feare you reach so hie, that you thinke no maides in Rome honourable enough for your paramour. Were I a man, and had Tullies grace, and his tongue, I would pleade for my selfe, and vse one worde for my friend, and two for my selfe. So Madam (quoth he) should men account me a faithlesse friend, and a flattering louer. But leauing these suppositions, madam, how answer you my last reason? With loue (quoth she) and that is without reason: for how might the Gentleman, to whom I find my selfe affectionate, thinke himselfe wronged, if without

cause

eause I should be inconstant. Graunt I my loue to the meanest citizen, a monarch shal not make conquest of my thoghts. Suppose (sir) it were your selfe, and that Terentia loued Tully, could you brooke an other to braue you in your affections? I would Madame (quoth Tully) it were no suppolition. And howe then, quoth Terentia, if it were not? Then would I (quoth he) become Esculapius to Lentulus, and sweare his disease should not be incurable, for I would coniure you, by the rights of loue, by the sacred lawes of Venus, and by the affections that were imprinted in your thoughts, to bestow what you would impart vnto me to my only loy Lord Lentulus. But women cannot make loue voluntary. Truly madame, what cannot women doe for loue? Any thing quoth Terentia but change loue. Therefore concealing the party that I loue, I will say and sweare Tully is my loue, and so say to Lentulus. With this Terentia blusht, and for verie griefe that Tully would not see into her thoughts, the teares stode in her eyes: which Tully spying, it so prickt him to the heart, that it neuer after was raled out. To smoth therefore his rough method with a fewe fine filed phrases, he salued the matter thus. It is (madame) impossible to driue fire downeward, or to make heauie things to mount. Nature will not be wronged, nor loue drawne out by constraint, therefore I will leaue any more at this time to sue for Lentulus: hoping the consideration of his martyrdome will at length make battery into the bulwarke of your breast, and whereas you will sweare Tully is your loue: you know (madame) we haue in our twelue tables, a lawe against periurie, but if you vouch to grace me that title, in all dutie I will rest your euer bounden seruant. Why then seruant quoth shee, let vs to yonder two Ladies, that for want of a companion are faine to make an amorous knight of my page. Flauia seeing they were halfe agreed, fearing Tully, by his eloquence had perswaded Terentia, waxed pale, and incountered them thus. What newes quoth shee, doth Lentulus winne or lose? Neither Madame, quoth Tullie, but his case hanges still in suspence, the next court day I will end my oration, and then the Iudge shall giue verdict.

As they were ready to haue gone forward in some pleasant prattle, they espied a horse-man making towards them with the greatest speed that might be. When he came within ken, Tully knew it to be Lentulus man, and before he had leasure to do his message, he demanded how his maister did: Passing sicke sir, quoth he, and hath sent that you be with him presently. Tully who was toucht at the quick with this newes, put forte in the styrope, and mounted, yet as one forgetting himselfe he vsed these words. Pardon Ladies, if I passe maners and promise, in leaping vp without leaue, and returning in such post without your company. It is for Lentulus, whom you all loue, and therefore I hope to rest blameleſſe. Now madame Terentia, what shall I say to Lentulus? No more, quoth she, then what I said to Tully: but how concludes Tully of his last premises: that, quoth he, Terentia shall frame the argument, and so, with this darke Ænigma, he toke his leaue of the Ladies: who after his departure, fel in talke of his perfection. Terentia so deepely praising the man, that her companions easily perceiued her loues, and smiled, that in forsaking a flower, she light vpon a weede. Well, tracing still amongst the medowes, they chanced into a valley most curiously decked with Floraes delicates, in which were such varietie of flowres, that Nature seemd there to haue planted the storehouse of her prodigalitie. Adioyning to this vally, was a pleasant riuer and a groue, that gaue a grace to Cloris excellency: delighted with the scituation of this place, as they passed along, they met a sheepeheard, who doing reuerence to the dames: Terentia demaunded of this swaine, what the name of this pleasant place was. Madam (quoth he) we sheepheards here call it, the vale of Loue. And why so, quoth Cornelia? Although madame, quoth he, my flocke hath no guide but my dogge, and nowe in yeaning time the wolues are very buſie, yet, for that I see you are senators daughters, and withall, passing curteous, I will shew the reason, and with that, leaning on his staffe, the Ladies sitting downe, began thus.

The Sheepheards tale.

NOt many yeres since, here in Arpinatum dwelt a shepheardesse called Phillis, so famous for hir beauty, that the Senators sonnes (which you call *Prætextati*) not onely came to fede their eies with her fauours, but to satisfie their fancies with her loues: insomuch, that she was courted of many braue Romane Gentlemen. But she that helde Loue at the staffes end, although her parents had left her rich, yet, to banish Cupid with labor, she vouchsaft to be keper of her own flockes, fearing the pride of the beautie (if she should marry with one of Rome) would proue an enemie to her humble thoughts: Liuing as chaste as she was inrolled for a vestal, and quoted by Diana for one of her speciall followers, her excellencie was bruited through all Italie. But she, who feared to gaze at staires, for stumbling at stones, laid her thoughts low, and made choice of her company with country maides, and homely shepheards: yet was her attire rich, as diuerse that trauelled this way, toke her rather for a Nymph, the follower of some goddesse, then a mayde, and daughter of a poore swaine. While thus shee liued Lady of the field, there was in the same village one Coridon, sonne to a simple shepherd, who was a mercenary man, kept sheep for Vannius the senator that hath a farm hard by. This Coridon was a man of a perfect perfection, his haire hung in tresses, and his face was beautifull: wise he was, and wanted but wealth, to make him the chiefe of all the shepheards, being of equall yeres almost with Phillis, some two yeres elder, he fell extremely in loue with Phillis. Enamored was poore Coridon, and pensiue, by his flocke sate ruminating of his passions, he smothred his loue in silence, for that he was not the meanest of the swains, and she mistris of vs al. He sate & sighed & had none but eccho to pity his plaints: his flocke left their feede to see their maisters sorrow: his pipe cease, the foulds were neuer more partakers of his melodie, and all these thoughtes and cares for Phillis. She wily, and spying this wanton dally in the flame, loked narrowly into the perfection of the man whom shee found worthy of loue, if his parents had not beene too meane, and his wealth none at all, suppressing

this

this loue with lacke, and quenching the fire with the defects shée found in Coridon. But Cupid that could not brooke such exceptions, pittying the passions of the poore shepheard, pulled forth an inuenomed boult, and pierst Phillis so deepe, that Coridon began to bée master of hir thoughts: now shée praiso his beautie, his behauiour, his witte, his gestures, so that nothing was amis in Coridon. If he piped, Apollo was not like hir Pan, if he sung, his voice was without compare, if he told tales, they were excellent, if he put forth riddles, they were wittie. Coridon was the shepheard that Phillis did fancy, and no flockes might graze by hirs, but those of Coridon. This (mistris) can Loue do, who though he bée choisly honoured in Rome, yet he findes some idle time to dally amongst shepheards. Well, at last Coridon spied Phillis lookes, and got some hope of fauour: first hée courted with his eyes; and after natures law fell to prattle, with interchaunge of glances, after from lookes to words, which after their homely fashion was very faithfully performed with sighes & teares, such perswasions as shepheards vse. Long had they not wooed, but Phillis was willing, and shée was won, that after faith and troth, as sone as the shepheards could come together, a feast was made, we kept holiday, and they were maried: and because these louers made this place the concealer of their passions, the shepheards, for perpetuall memory of Phillis and Coridon, call this, the vale of Loue, and in praise thereof, wée country shepheards made an Ode, which if it please you to stay, I will rehearse. The Ladies passing willing, thus the shepheard gan report.

The Sheepheards Ode.

WAlking in a valley greene,
Spred with *Flora* summer queene:
Where shee heaping all hir graces,
Niggard seemd in other places.
Spring it was, and here did spring,
All that nature forth can bring:

Groues

Groues of pleaſant trees there grow,
Which fruit and ſhadow could beſtow:
Thick leaued boughes ſmall birds couer,
Till ſweete notes themſelues diſcouer:
Tunes for number ſeemd confounded,
Whilſt their mixtures muſicke ſounded.
Greeing well, yet not agreed,
That one the other ſhould exceede.
A ſweete ſtreame here ſilent glides:
Whoſe cleare water no fiſh hides.
Slow it runs, which well bewraid,
The pleaſant ſhore the current ſtaid:
In this ſtreame a rocke was planted,
Where no art nor nature wanted.
Each thing ſo did other grace,
As all places may giue place.
Onely this the place of pleaſure,
Where is heaped natures treaſure.
Here mine eyes with woonder ſtaid,
Eyes amaſd, and mind afraid:
Rauiſht with what was beheld,
From departing were withheld.
Muſing then with ſound aduiſe,
On this earthly paradiſe:
Sitting by the riuer ſide,
Louely *Phillis* was deſcride:
Gold hir haire, bright hir eyen,
Like to *Phœbus* in his ſhine:
White hir brow, hir face was faire,
Amber breath perfumde the aire.
Roſe and Lilly both did ſeeke,
To ſhew their glories on hir cheeke.
Loue did neſtle in hir lookes,
Baiting there his ſharpeſt hookes.
Such a *Phillis* ne're was ſeene,
More beautifull then Loues Queene.
Doubt it was whoſe greater grace,
Phillis beautie, or the place.

Tullies Loue.

Hir coat was of ſcarlet red,
All in pleates, a mantle ſpread,
Fringd with gold: a wreath of bowes,
To checke the Sun from hir browes.
In hir hand a ſheepheards hooke,
In hir face *Dianaes* looke.
Hir ſheepe graſed on the plaines,
Shee had ſtolne from the ſwaines:
Vnder a coole ſilent ſhade,
By the ſtreames ſhee garlands made.
Thus ſat *Phillis* all alone,
Miſſt ſhee was by *Coridon*:
Chiefeſt ſwaine of all the reſt,
Louely *Phillis* lik't him beſt.
His face was like *Phœbus* loue,
His neck white as Venus Doue:
A ruddie cheeke filld with ſmiles,
Such Loue hath when he beguiles.
His lookes browne, his eyes were gray,
Like *Titan* in a Summer day.
A ruſſet lacket, ſleeues red,
A blew bonnet on his head:
A cloak of gray fenc'd the raine,
Thus tyred was this louely ſwaine:
A ſhepheards hooke, his dog tide,
Bag and bottle by his ſide:
Such was *Paris* ſhepheards fay,
When with *Oenone* he did play.
From his flocke ſtraid *Coridon*,
Spying *Phillis* all alone:
By the ſtreame he *Phillis* ſpide,
Brauer then was Floraes pride:
Downe the valley gan he tracke,
Stole behind his true-loues backe.
The ſunne ſhone and ſhadow made,
Phillis roſe, and was afraid.
When ſhee ſaw hir louer there,
Smile ſhee did, and left hir feare.

Cupid

Cupid that diſdaine doth loth,
With deſire ſtrack them both.
The ſwaine did woe, ſhee was niſe,
Following faſhion, nayde him twiſe:
Much adoo hee kiſt hir then,
Maidens bluſh when they kiſſe men:
So did *Phillis* at that ſtowre,
Hir face was like the roſe flowre.
Laſt they greed, for loue would ſo,
Faith and troth they would no mo.
For ſhepheards euer held it ſin,
To falſe the loue they liued in.
The ſwaine gaue a girdle red,
Shee ſet garlands on his head.
Giftes were giuen, they kiſſe againe,
Both did ſmile, for both were faine:
Thus was loue mongſt ſhepheards ſold,
When fancy knew not what was gold:
They wood, and vowd, and that they keep,
And goe contented to their ſheep.

The end of the Shepheards Ode.

AS ſoone as the ſhepheard repeated his Ode, Terentia delighted with the deſcription of the paſſionall loue, for that it touched hir paſſions, gaue him heartie thanks, and ſo the ſwaine toke his leaue and departed. Terentia and the reſt hereupon growing into the effects of Loue that keepes no proportion of perſons, wandred on talking towards the groue. And for that the ſunne grew hote, and was riſen to the highelt Zenith of the heauens, ſeeking for ſhelter, they went into the groue, which was ſeated hard by the pleaſant current: finding out there a place conuenient, theſe three Ladies ſit them downe vpon the graſſe, were delighted with the melodie of the birdes, and the colneſſe of the ſhade, they fell a ſleepe. Then liued in Rome, Vatinius the Senatour, which was one of the moſt wealthy in poſſeſſion of any that had beene Conſull in the Citie, fauoured

euery way by fortune, had hee not beene thwarted by one greeuous and doleful misfortune. For this Vatinius amongst many children had his eldest sonne, as first in byrth, so brauest in proportion, of such exquisite lineaments, touching the outward shape, as nature seemd to haue beene curious in her workmanship: but otherwise he was so foolish, and of so clownish capacitie, that there was no hope of his future conceit: his name was after his father Vatinius. But for because, neither by the diligence of any maister, nor the flattery of his friends, correction, or any other industrie, hee could be made capable of learning, or ciuilitie, vsing fashions and wordes from a harshe and grosse voyce, resembling rather a brute beast, then a reasonable creature, he was in derision called of euery man, Fabius the Foole. Vatinius greeuing that the Gods had offred him this wrong, for that the presence of Fabius was the continuall source of his sorrowes, he commaunded that he should goe to his Farme, and there liue amongest his sheepheards. This was no little content to Fabius, as one that delighted more in the nature of Clownes, and Bondslaues, then in the courtly behauiour of libertines, and Gentlemen. Fabius thus beeing in the Country, applying himselfe to all principles of husbandrie, one day amongst the rest, walked forth, with a great bat on his neck, to ouer-see his Fathers pastures: at last, for that the Sunne was hie and shone hote, he went into the groue, then all ouer-clad with leaues, for it was farre spring, and seeing a place wherein at pleasure to rest himselfe, hee stumbled (by Fortune) on the fount where Terentia lay a sleepe, who when Fabius espied, being clad in a roab of Silke, so thin, as the whitenesse of hir skinne did appeare, hauing hir two companions by hir side, hee began as one amazed to behold. Leaning therefore on his great bat, without vttring one word, hee stood in great admiration what shee should be, as though hee had neuer seene so braue a creature before. Now entring into his rusticall, and blunt vnderstanding, (where neuer before could be ingrauen any impression of honest ciuilitie,) a thought of fancie, which made him confesse, in his grosse and materiall spirites, that this

maide

maide was the fayrest thing that euer could bee censured by sight. In this humor hee began to deskant of hir seuerall beauties, praysing, hir haire to be of gold, hir forehead of Iuory, hir lips Corall, and aboue all, hir two breasts, which then began to appeare like prettie tender buds, in such simple sort so distinguishing of hir fauours, that from a grosse Clowne, hee became to be a Iudge of Beautie: especially coueting to see hir eyes, which heauie sleepe had shut vp, determining often to haue waked hir, to haue contented himselfe with their sights. But seeing hir more faire then any creature that before he had seene, he thought hir to bee some Goddesse. Hauing thus farre knowledge, that things diuine should be reuerenced more then humaine, and therefore durst not attempt to wake hir, but (although shee had a sound and long sleepe) tooke such pleasure in contemplating hir perfections, that he would by no delay depart. At last, after a long space, Terentia awaked before any of the rest, lifting vp hir drowsie eyes, shee saw before hir, Fabius leaning vpon his staffe, whereof beeing halfe amazed, shee asked of him. Fabius, what seekest thou here in this groue? Fabius, who as well by his countenance, as clemencie, and for the nobilitie of his house, as the riches of his Father, was generally knowne of all the Romaines, made no answere to Terentia, but seeing hir eyes open, he began to looke stedfastly vpon them, feeling a pleasing content to issue from those Lampes which sparkle as the very flame of Loue: insomuch, that Terentia seeing him gaze so earnestly, fearing the sturdie clowne might offer hir some violence, wakened vp hir companions, and starting vp said, Fabius farewell. And although Terentia refused, as beeing surprised with great feare of his rusticall disposition: yet he would not forsake hir till hee had brought hir to hir Fathers house, where bluntly leauing the Ladie, he went home to his Fathers, saying hee would not returne any more into the Country. Although it greeued his Father to haue his sorrow continually before his eyes, yet wondring what the occasion of this strange motion should meane, hee was content to let him remaine at home in the Citie. Loues arrowes thus piercing

into the heart of Fabius, wherein to neuer before any chaist thought coulde enter, enade such a metamorphosis of his minde, that not onely his father and friends, but all Rome began to wonder at his sodaine alteration: for he requyred to be apparelled as the sonne of a Senator, which his father with all diligence perfourmed. Then frequenting the most courteous and honest yong Gentlemen of the Cittie, especially such as were amorous: he (to the great astonishing of all) not onely learned his letters, but became very studious, and grew to haue deepe insight into Philosophy, to be skilful in Musicke, to ride a Horse, and to be expert in all gentle and manlike actiuitie: to conclude, in short space, he was one of the brauest yong men in Rome.

Here by the way (courteous Ladies and braue gentlewomen) what shall I say of the transformation of Fabius? onely in my opinion this: That the high vertues of the heauens infused into his noble brest were imprisoned by the enuious wrath of fortune within some narrow corner of his heart, whose bands went asunder by loue, as a Lord too mightie for fortune. Cupid the raiser vp of sleepy thoghts dispersed those vertues into euery part of his mind, obscured before with the eclipse of base thoughts. Let vs then thinke of loue, as of the most purest passion that is inserted into the heart of man. Well, leauing Fabius studious how to excell in all laudable vertues, againe to Tully, who arriued in post haste to the lodging of Lentulus, and found him passing sicke, yet somewhat comforted at the sight of Cicero, as of him that he held most deere in the world. Tully seeing him so ill and ful of passions, durst not tell him that he had seene Terentia, least her froward answere should augment his misery, concealing therefore his chat that he had with the Ladies, at last Lentulus shewd him the letter of Flauia: wherupon they fel to discourse of her beauties and vertues, how she was not much inferior to Terentia in fauour, but farre beyond her in honours, discoursing so long from point to point, that after a voly of broken sighes tempered with some teares he fell a sleepe. Tully glad that he tooke a nappe, stole softly out of the Chamber, and being by himselfe, calling to minde the wordes of Terentia,

began

begin to enter into this combate with himselfe.

So pliant are the aspects of the sixe appointing starrs in some mens nativitie, as they force fortune manger her owne variable nature to be constant. Amongst all that haue bene borne in the poore village of Arpinatum, thou maist (Tully) say, that thy planets haue bene pleasing, and thy desires fauourable, who the son of a poore farmour, art in hope to make thy house equall with the most in Rome. Measure but thy honour, and Iudge of thy fortunes: thy family base, yet art thou a companion with Senators, and men of greatest account in the Cittie. Honour treads on thy heele, and dignitie daunceth attendance at thy lookes: but loue, Cicero, that deitie, that diuine essence that seateth vp content in all estates, he stoopeth at thy frowne, presents thee wreathes of mirtle, that thou maist enter into Paphos without checke. Terentia the wonder of Rome, Natures Paragon, the refined beautie of the heauens, she that scorneth to glaunce at the Prætexiati: she that makes no account of the miracle of our time, Lord Lentulus: she Cicero commaunded by loue, yeelds her selfe captiue to the sonns of a poore countrey villager in Arpinatum. Then Tully strew Venus temple with roses: say there is no fount but Alcidalion, no hill but Erecinus, no bird but the Doue, no god but Cupid. Lose not opportunitie, take her by the forehead, let not slip occasion, for she glides away like a shadow: nor Loue, for she hangs at the heeles of Time. Now Terentia hath put the pron in the fire, strike then while it is hote, pay her downe poundes of loue for drams of fancie: for, in matching with the daughter of a Senator, thinke, it presageth thou shalt be a Senator: so shalt thou gaine, at one time, honor, dignitie, wealth, and beautye but with that, lose thy faith Tully, thy faith thou hast vowed to Lentulus, who shutteth vp his secrets in thy heart, and resteth his thoughts on thy bosome. Wilt thou preferre honor before thy friend, or wealth before conscience. Ah Tully, if thou be the man that Rome wondreth at for thy eloquence, be also the man they shal canonize for thy vertues Beauty is but a bauns blaze, wealth is but a fickle fauour of Fortune, dignitie is haunted by enuy: but friendshippe

that is the pretious treasure, that neyther time nor fortune can violate. Why but Terentia will neuer loue Lentulus, then Tully, hate thou euer Terentia. I am a man and subiect vnto loue, aswell as Lentulus: So art thou a man, and being halfe to thy friend art vnworthy all loue. Abandon (Tully) these vaine imaginations, count Terentia foule, deformed, vitious, and what not: as long as one spark of loue lieth raked vp in the cynders of thy thoughts: & as long as Lentulus loues hir, hate hir for thy selfe, and loue hir for Lentulus. Setting downe his rest at this period, he went into the chamber, to see if Lentulus were awake, but finding him still fast a sleepe, he went towards the Capitoll, where he met with Flaminius the father of Terentia, who demaunded verie heartily how Lentulus did. Cicero with a deepe sigh said, passing sicke. Whereof (quoth Flaminius) growes the disease? I heard Asclapo iudged his sicknes to be mortall. Tully thinking to set all on the dice, not respecting his owne loue, but his faith to his friend, began thus. Graue Senator, I nede not rehearse Lentulus byrth, as being a citizen, nor his reuenewes and possessions long knowne to euery man, nor his honours ended in victories: for the Parthians are sufficient euidence of his well discharged dignities and valors. Lentulus graced in the prime of his youth with these fauors, hearing of the beautie of a Romaine Lady, left the warres, and came to Rome, where courting his Mistresse, not with wanton poems, but with tearmes of mariage, he found hir froward, and his loue dasht in the prime. The impression of hir beautie grauen with to deepe a character, was to fast rooted in his heart, to be thrust out with deniall: yet Lentulus to content hir, plaies like the Phenix, burnes in his owne perfumes, rather wishing to die, then to contrarie hir resolution. This is the cause that first brought Lentulus to his bed, and this (ere long) will bring him to his graue. And who may it be (quoth Flaminius,) of what family, of what beauty, of what degree, that can, or dare deny Lord Lentulus? Is he not mighty, and may commaund by force, what he cannot obtaine by intreatie: will not the souldiers at his beck rise in armes: Feare not the Consuls themselues

seines to wrong Lentulus? Doth not all Rome hang their thoughts at his lookes? Ah miserable father that harbours such a daughter and stubborne huswife, that denies to braue a Romane. In friendship Tully, tel me who it is? Cicero willing to put a spur to a free horse, and to lose his owne content to win his friends quiet, told him flatly it was his daughter Terentia: and for proofe, he shewed him the letters that past betwixt Lentulus and her. Assone as her father had read the contents, as a man halfe mad he fell into furious and frantick tearmes, exclaming against the head-strong humour of foolish Terentia. After he had breathed out the heat of his choller, he fell to be somewhat appeased, and bade Tullie home to supper, promising all should sort according vnto Lentulus minde. With that departing from the Capitol, Tully and he went home to his house, where the Cooke being somewhat slacke, Flaminius hearing his daughter was all alone in a garden, he wished Tullie to try her once againe, and to perswade her by all possible meanes to grant to the request of Lentulus. Vpon this Tully went into the garden, where finding Terentia sitting solitary in an arbour vp to the hard eares in a dumpe, he wakened her out of her muse thus. Vestas chiefe paragon, and Venus new intertained darling, you madame Terentia I meane that sit in a muse: are you offring orisons to Diana for your chastitie, or thanks to Cupid for your loues: or what are you thinking on when you thinke on nothing? Terentia turning her head and seeing Tully all alone, blusht more then Cynthia did when she wantond with her faire faced shepheard, yet welcoming her loue with a smile, she tooke him by the hande and made him this answere.

Your subtile salutation, concluding Vesta & Venus in one dilemma, commaunds me answer, that I was doing my deuotion to both, offring prayers for my old thoghts, & thanks for my new loues: and scarce had I sayde, gramercy to the goddesse, but you must come (Cicero) to make my thankes prodigious: for my thinking, when I thought of nothing, it was of mens loues which are lighter then the flame, and sooner faded then a flash of lightning: But I pray you say, what

wind hath driuen you into this coast? sparry (madame) the very sighes that fly from Lentulus breast grewe to so great a storme, that I was blowne hither to seeke shelter for the tempest. You haue nothing (quoth Terentia) but Lentulus in your mouth: I pray you say, how fares the gentleman? Ill madame (quoth Tully) euery way, for his diet is bad, in that his stomake is nought, and his health is doubtfull, in that his thoughts are disquiet: and (madame) it rests in you to saue so honourable a gentleman, not onely from sicknes but from sorrow: Æneas was a stragling Troian, an exile periured and banisht euen from the ruines of Troy, yet Dido the famous Carthage Queene made him her paramour. Demophoon a pirate, a robber in Greece, cast vp as shipwracke on the shore, yet entertained by Phillis. Phao a ferriman, a slaue, yet fauoured by Sapho. Lentulus, the hope of the Romanes, more beautifull then Æneas, more courageous then Demophoon, and more honourable then Phao, more louing then them all, reiected by Terentia, his neighbor and familiar. Thinke not Terentia but loue, as he hath roses, so he hath nettles, as he hath perfumes, so hath he hemlocke, and holding fauour, he claspeth reuenge, as readie to pierce, as to pacifie. If you procure Lentulus death, Cupid hath power to inforce your dispaire, and to cause your loue to be as fickle to you, as you are froward to him. Then (madame) let me be the messenger of life, and from your sweet selfe cary such conserues to Lentulus, as may recouer his health, and increase your honours. This discourse of Tully did but set Terentias heart more on fire. For hearing the pleasant harmonie of hir Cicero, she liked of the musicke, as of the Syrens melodie, and so intangled her selfe with many new conceiued fancies, insomuch that forgetting whose daughter she was, she burst forth into these teares.

Did I not Cicero tell thee twixt Arpinatum & Rome, that loue hath but one cel, wherein to place the Idæa of the partie loued: wilt thou haue me like the Camelion, to haue many colours, or like Helena, to intertaine many loues? I knowe Lentulus dignities are beyond my degree, that his honours are more then my fortunes, that his loue is great, and so I

hold

hold him the second in my most secret, though first he cannot be, and that he craues. Thou dost wring water out of the flint, fire forth of the dry sands, and immodestly from her that hath euer bene honoured for chastitie: so that by wastlesse perswasions for thy friend, I am forst to say thou art the friend that Terentia hath chosen amongst all the worthy Romanes: Before I saw thee Tullie I loued thee, and now I haue setled my affection, and thou wrongst me with discurtesie: but either cease from intreating for Lentulus, or looke to see me worse than Lentulus. And with this blushing at her owne ouermuch loues, she poured forth such aboundance of teares, as well might bewray the sincerities of her affections. Tully grieuing to see the goddesse of his thoughts in this passion, answered her mildly, thus. Blame mee not (Terentia) if I pleade for Lentulus, seeing his sorrow, and entring into mine owne promise. Than friendship, is no sweeter iewell, then howe can I but labour ere I lose so rich a prize? But seeing Terentia hath vouchsafed of so meane a man as Tully, whose honours onely hangs in his studies: loue being the strictest league of amitie, and no such friendship, as is mariage: I vowe by the Romane gods, euer to be a dutifull seruant vnto Terentia: and with my loyaltie so to requite her fauours, as Rome shall more admire my affections, then they haue wondred at my eloquence: yet with this Prouiso (my sweet Terentia) that although I preferre thy fauours before mine owne life, yet if thou canst, striue to loue Lentulus, which if either the gods, loue, fortune, or thy selfe can bring to passe, I will with mine owne preiudice, conquer mine owne thoughts to satisfie the content of Lentulus. As Terentia was readie to reply, one of her fathers seruants came to request Cicero to come to supper, who taking his leaue of Terentia, went into her father Flaminius, who sitting downe to supper, passed away the time in ordinary talke. Their repast being taken, Flaminius calling Tully on the one side, demaunded what his daughters answere was? Peremptory (quoth Tully,) still to hold Lentulus in mislike. Then you shall heare (quoth her father) what I will say, and so report to Lentulus; so calling for

Terentia they thꝛée being together, he began thus.

I know not now Terentia, to insinuate my *Exordium*, whether, friendly to perswade with a smile, oꝛ fatherly to admonish with a frowne, thy follies are so great, and my care so tender. Rome hath hitherto admyꝛed thy vertues, and I haue pꝛaised thy obedience: thou hast bene counted honourable and chaste, wise to eschew wantonnes, but neuer coy to be thought disdainefull: and shall now all theſe graces end in disgrace? Then Terentia maiest thou repent hereafter, and I powꝛe foꝛth pꝛesent soꝛrowes. I speake thus, soꝛ that I heare in the city what maketh me to grieue, and may foꝛce thée to blush. They say Terentia is beautiful, & pꝛoud, witty, & ouerweening, hauing coy disdaine crept into the place of curteous desire: this men say that enuy thy follies, and grieue at Lentulus foꝛtunes. Now daughter, thou sæst the mark I aime at, & maiest iudge of my shot by the leuell: Lentulus is fallen into a feuer, whith Asclapo that famous Phisition of Patras censures to be moꝛtall. Thy fꝛowardnes was the efficient of the disease, & now thou denieſt cure of the malady. Unadui sed gyꝛle, that neither weigheſt of thine owne honours, noꝛ his miseries. Lentulus requires Terentia in marriage: let vs make compare of the parties, & so examine the cause of thy denialls. He is deſcended from the Lentuli & Æmilij, two houses that euer haue ben the pꝛops of the Romane dignities, his honours are great, as Pꝛoconsull in his youth against the Parthians: His foꝛtunes mighty, doubled with his conquests and victoꝛies: His reuenewes such as he may with Crassus maintaine Legions. If like Venus darling thou sækeſt to fæde thine eye, his fauour is moꝛe then his that pleased Cynthia. If thou couetest a souldier, Lentulus in Rome, is as Hector was in Troy. If a courtier, who bꝛaues it so in Italy? To conclude, if Terentia couet to loue, there is none so fit to loue within the Romane Empire as Lentulus. Whereas Terentia is but the daughter of a meane Senatoꝛ, heꝛ dowꝛy can not be much, foꝛ that hir fathers wealth is not great: Beautiful she is, & so are many in Rome, who are of meaner parentage. Her gloꝛies are but foꝛtunes pelfe, that floꝛish in the moꝛning, & fade befoꝛe night. What then can moue Terentia

to

to oppose hir selfe against Lentulus: vnlesse thee fatally presageth hir own discredit, and the ruine of hir Fathers house: If then daughter, thou art child to Flaminius, I charge thee by the strict law of nature, which Philosophers call *Regius amor*, a kingly loue: if thou be a maid, by the holy fiers of Vesta: if beautifull, by Venus deity: if a Romaine, by thy Countries loue that loue Lentulus: which if thou refuse to performe, thy Father shal curse thee, Vesta shal shut thee from hir temples, Venus from hir fauours, and thy Country from inioying the sweete content of honour, and then make thee outcast of all hir Romaine virgins. More are my reasons to alleage, then thy reasons able to contrarie: but omitting all, and saying hee is onely Lentulus: Daughter, what answere?

Terentia seeing hir father in such a choller, and that hee was induced vnto it by Ciceroes perswasions, in a fury began thus frantike. I deny not, but fathers challenge loue by nature, and obedience by duetie, and both those sir (I hope) I haue euer performed: if not, I rest sorrowfull, and craue pardon: but in loue parents haue no priuiledge: For the liking of the Father is no contract of the daughter. Venus conclusions grow not of parents promises, nor can affection be like the fire stroken forth of a flint: for loue is chosen by the eye, and confirmed by the heart, womens thoughts are not the spoyles of Mars, nor is the battell of fancy fought with the sworde, but with the Senses, and loues arrowes are pointed by fate and fortune. Weigh then Terentia, who hath not hir loues in hir hand, but in hir heart, and thereunto none can make breath, but such a one as the pleasing constellation of the starres haue appointed. I doe not deny the excellencie of Lentulus, aswel in exterior shew of honors, wealth, dignities, & proportion, as in the interior vertues & perfections of the mind, and that hee merits a Ladie of far more esteeme then Terentia: But I know not what contrarie aspect, either of the planets in our natiuities, or of loues in our thoughts, or of fortune in our resolution to like, hath crossed his desire, and my fancie, but of all the Romaine gentlemen, I cannot fancie my Lord Lentulus. Cressida confest Troylus was the better knight, and yet the Greeke

held hir lonely in his tent. With them affection growes from desire, and desire is tyed to destiny, seeke not Sir to wring water out of the pumey, to couple the Mouse and the Elephant at one stall, to vnite those loues that Venus in hir Synode house hath expressly countercheckt. For to answere your obiection, Terentia cannot force hir selfe to loue Lentulus. Shee thus concluding with a few teares, hir Father departing from hir with a frowne, told Tully that not reason was sufficient to induce his daughter to be affectionate, and therfore that he wished Lentulus to appeale his passions, and to salue such impossibilities with patience: Whereupon they, after change of salutations & common curtesies, parted with a friendly farewell. Tully at his home comming, reuealed vnto Lentulus the whole discourse, how Flaminius had searcht into the depth of Terentias thoughts, both with plausible perswasions, and inforced reasons, and could find no other conclusion, but that shee could not loue Lentulus. Although this newes pierced the verie center of his heart, as mortally, as if hee had beene wounded with the sting of Aspes: yet cheering himselfe a little, hee sat vp, and in his owne minde hauing about or two with fancy, hee gaue hir so deepe a reuie, that hee held affection at the swords point. But Tully, who betweene friendship and loue felt a furious combat, allured with the beauteous perfection of Terentia, and forbidden that fauour by the entyre amitie he had vowed vnto Lentulus, entred into so deepe a melancholy, that not able to maister his passions, he fell sicke, and kept his bed. Lentulus seeing his Tully thus distrest, grieued at his friends misfortune, and cheered vp himselfe, that he might somwhat comfort his Cicero, that newly was crossed with a distempered sicknes. He sought by phisicke to search out the nature of the disease: but Asclapo could not deeme the cause by the effects: he sought by intreaties to wrest out the occasion of so sodaine a sorrow, but in vaine. Tully was so secrete and silent to make any shew of his loues, though he bought such secresie with death. This grieued Lentulus, who feeling himselfe euery day to amend, perceiued that Cicero daily waxed worse and worse. Lingring thus in inward passions,

Terentia

Terentia that take it discourteously at Tullies hand, that he should force hir Father, to inforce hir to loue Lentulus, seeing shee had onely deuoted hir selfe as his, howsoeuer fortune shoulde oppose hir selfe. To ease hir mind of some choller that boyled in hir secret thoughts, shee take pen and inke, and wrote him a letter to this effect.

Terentia, to Marcus Tullius Cicero, health.

AS my thoughts are secret and loues extreame, so is vnkindnes bitter, and the more vneasie borne. Thou playest (Tullie) with me, as doe the Leopards with their keeper, that euer wrong them most, that giue them greatest store of fodder. Are these Venus lawes to pay honny with gall, to make rods of nettles, for garlands of Roses, to hate them most, that loue most? The ingratitude of Tully hath drawne Terentia into this choller. And if I write sharpely, blame me not, that I am vsed so shrowdly. Before I euer saw thy face, I allowed thy fauour, and onely hearing thy vertues with mine eare, I registred them vp deeply in my hart. Terentia hath bene courted of many, yet neuer made account of any: Sundry haue sought my loues, but they haue returned with losse, Lentulus the terrour of the Parthians, the honour of the Romanes, and thy friend hath long wooed, but what hath he won? onely Tullie hath obtained, that which so many haue mist, and yet he deales with Terentia as crabbedly, as she vsed him courteously. Do louers for fishes proffer scorpions? or do they like the serpent, sting him that cherisheth him vp in his bosome? I seeke to fauour Tully, and he importunate, sues for fauour for Lentulus. Art thou so deepe a philosopher, as to deeme friendship aboue marriage, or faith aboue fancy, or thy Terentia, lesse then thy Lentulus? If it be so, take heed that Terentia, too much wronged, scornes not both thee and Lentulus. Womens thoughts consists oft in extreames, and they that loue most, if abused, hate most deadly: feare this, and beware of my frowne: as yet there is but one wrinckle in my browe, but if it once proue full of angry sorrowes,

it will be to late to take hold of occasion behind: Then art forewarned, before forearmd, and so farewell.

Thy Terentia, if thou wrong
not Terentia.

After shée had written this Letter, shée caused it to bée conueied by Eutrapelus to Tully, who reading the contents, found not a salue to cure his malady, but that Terentia rubbed the scar afresh, by shaking him vp so sharply, yet coueting rather to die with an honorable mind to Lentulus, then with a discredit to enioy beautifull Terentia, he laid his heade on his pillowe, and with many sighes bewraid the depth of his sorrowes. Hauing laid his letter at his beds head, ouercharged with many cares, prae Tully fell asleepe, and so sodainly, that Lentulus, by the helpe of Eutrapelus got to haue a sight of his letter. Assone as the Gentleman saw how deeply Terentia was affected to his friend, and perceiued by the circumstances, that he chose rather to die, then to falsifie his faith, such a secrete loue towards Tully so pierced the closet of his honorable thoughts, that he fell to conceipt but meanly of Terentia, and to wish that his friend Cicero might both recouer his health, and his loue. Now began the fancy of Lentulus to freze, that erst was so great a flame, and he, that like the Salamander delighted to liue in the fire, began to feare to *accidere ad ignem*, lest he should *Calescere plus quàm satis*. Now he called to mind the resolution of Terentia, tempered with frowardnesse, and with this hée did proportion the vertues of Flauia, mixed with courtesie, finding the fauour of the one, answerable to the beautie of the other, then the faith of his friend, his sicknes and extreame sorrowes. These weighed with deep consideration, he vowed to seeke by all meanes how to win Terentia wholy for his friend Cicero. In this humor he conuaide this letter vnder his beds head, and rested silent till occasion might offer him opportunitie to discouer the perfection of his amitie. Thus grew Lentulus at one time from his sickness & his loue, walking abroad, and visiting Flaminius, who intertained him in

all

all sumptuous manner. But Lentulus seeing the three Ladies, made no shewe to Terentia, nor scarse glanced a looke vpon hir beautie, but onely courted the Ladie Flauia, whom he found so agreeable and pliant to his suites, that Terentia and Cornelia might easily see how deeply they were linked in the league of affection. Leauing Tully thus sicke on his bed, and Lentulus in sweete content with Flauia. Againe to our new transformed Fabius, who in this time proued one of the bravest Gentlemen in Rome, and finding a restlesse passion in his minde for the beautie of Terentia, as hauing continually before his eye the Idæa of hir person, seeing by hir meanes hee was metamorphosed and brought to this perfection, making the force of his loue priuie to his Father Vatinius, he was not onely praysed for his good choice, but willed to goe forward in the obtayning, of his affections. Whervpon, not willing to make a long haruest of a small crop, to preuent (as he thought) that none should cut the grasse from vnder his feete, hee went to Terentiaes Father, and bluntly craued his daughter in mariage. He knowing him to bee of honorable parentage, and of rich reuenewes, seeing shee would not condiscend vnto Lentulus, gaue him his franke good will, if hee could creepe into his daughters fauour, who taking the aduantage of the time, went to find out Terentia, who as then was very melancholy, sitting with Flauia and Cornelia, talking of the sickines of Tully. As they were thus in chat, came in Fabius, who they streight knew, & wondred at his strange alteration: he, to shew he could as well court it as the bravest young gentleman in Rome, began thus curteously to salute the Ladies. Maruell not (Ladies) if a countrie swaine presume to attempt the presence of such rare excellencies, seeing Oenones sheepheard durst with his eye survey the beauty of diuine Goddesses, and they to shew they were as gracious, and full of fauours, gaue him the greatest minion that was counted the sweetest Paragon of the world. Earthly creatures you be, faire Romaines, but heauenly faces, whose lookes lighten diuine influence into the thoughts of such as dare to contemplate your affections. I speake this, as being the man, that from the cart, liue in the court thus

metamorphosed by your supernaturall beauties. For which fauour I am come in duty, to rest a bounden votarie to your sweete selues. Terentia was so pensiue for Tullies passions, that shee would make no aunswere. But Cornelia, whom already Cupid had set on fire with Fabius feature, shee returned him this reply.

I remember Fabius, that sitting in the grone by Arpinatum a gentle swaine much like your selfe in proportion, though not in properties, seeing we were slenderly guarded with a page, conducted vs home to Rome with his friendly company: if it be your selfe, had we as braue a Lady as Helena was, and were she in our power to bestowe, we would make you maister and sole possesser of her beauties, so to reward your courtesie. Fabius seeing the marke so faire, thought not to lose his shote, but aimde his leuel thus.

And for that cause (Ladies) is Fabius come that his meed, may not want his merite, glad that Venus dewes downe such fauours, and oportunitie such showers of good fortunes, to find you all here in so fit a time. For know (honourable Romans) that for my grosse and rude nature, hauing the ciuill behauiour of the Cittie, I was surnamed Fabius: in which obscure life, I liued hauing my senses eclipsed with folly, till the gods grudging at natures spight, sent you three to be ministers of happines. For comming into the grone where you lay all asleepe calling mine eye on the beauty of Terentia, such a deepe impression was figured in my minde, that I felt an vnacquainted motion, with a mild reuerence to thinke well of her perfection: surueying her singular beauties, I fell so far in loue with her excellency, that from the country I came to the Citty, and howe since by her gratious sight I haue metamorphosed my selfe, your owne eares, and the wonder of Rome is best able to witnesse. Then Ladies, I count the renewing of my life to come from the feature of Terentia, and that she, not as Diana, changed me from a man to bea beast, but contrary, full of fauour, hath reduced me from a sensual beast, to a perfect reasonable man. How deply then I ought to be vowed to her, whose sight is the welspring of my happines, let the greatnes of my benefit make manifest:

manifeſt: in ſo much, as feeding my thoughts with the contemplation of Terentiaes beauty, I haue bene thus transformed, but withall, ſo ſurpriſed with her loue, that as I haue gaind a ſecond eſſence by her ſweet ſelfe, ſo I haue loſt my ſelfe within the Laberinth of her lookes, that I remaine her captiue while it pleaſeth her to grant me libertie. Be then (braue Roman Dames) impartiall domers of my ſute, whether my deſertes craue not Loue that thus haue bene chaunged for her loue. My parents are Senators, my reuenewes inferiour to none: olde Vatinius glad of my choiſe, and Terentias father thriſe happy if his daughter might like of Vatinius. Now reſts it onely in Terentias power to make me bleſſed, or infortunate. At this diſcourſe of Fabius, the Ladies were aſtoniſhed, and Terentia galled to the quicke with this demaund held her tongue, til Cornelia and Flauia, loking earneſtly vpon her, aſked her what anſwere ſhe made to Fabius. Such quoth ſhe as I returned to Lentulus: for knowe ſir, if either the honour of a ſouldier, the dignity of a Roman, the reuenewes of a Senators ſon, or the deepe impreſſion of fancy might haue drawne Terentia to loue, I had bene ere this the wife and paramour of Lentulus. But not the courage of Hector that won Andromache, nor the wiſdome of Vliſſes that intangled Caliſo, nor the beauty of Priamus ſonne that drew Greece in armes to Troy: theſe perfections if combined in one man, ſhould not moue Terentia to liſten to the allurements of Venus: not that I make light eſteeme of Lentulus, or that I hold ſmall account of Fabius, as two chiefe myrrours of our Romane gentlemen: But that either my vowes are reſolute to Veſta, or if Cupid hath taken me by the heele, it was before Lentulus came from Parthia, or you fro Arpinatum: ſo that to conclude, howſoeuer it is, I cannot become affectionate to Fabius. At this reply Fabius ſtood ſo amazed, as if he had bene an vnwelcome gueſt at the feaſt of Perſeus, which Cornelia noting, deeply in loue with Fabius, ſhe tould him thus. Nor may you (Fabius) think much at this repulſe, ſith Lentulus and you are in one predicament, nowe both become gainers in liberty, that haue bene loſers in loue: and either get the willow garland and ſo mourne for

your Ladies fortune, or seeke a mistresse that may shew you more fauour: For as for Terentia, she hath chosen, and none must please her but Orators. If there be (Fabius) but one sunne that is thought the beauty of heauen, yet there be planets, that though not in shine, yet in influence, are as vertuous. What: ther be ladies (I meane) of such course die as my selfe and Flauia, that when Terentia is once maried, looke for husbands. Fabius hearing Cornelia thus pleasant, noted this quippe, that none must please her but Orators, which made Terentia blush for anger, and Fabius to make this answere: I know no Orators in Rome quoth he, whose yeares are answerable to Terentiaes thoughts but onely Marcus Tullius Cicero, and if it be he, I sweare by the fitch that gaue him his surname, Terentia shall be mistresse of a goodly Cottage in Arpinatum. Terentia hearing Fabius to giue Tully the frumpe, answered thus.

The more his fortune, if it be he whose vertues hath made him maister of his owne desires, for his lands in Arpinatum as they be little, yet shall his lacke be counteruailed with his loues: and if he hath not one to inrich him with dowry, yet I may perhaps content him with beauty. And therefore Fabius, to take away all suppositions, it is Tully, and none but Tully that shall inioy Terentia. And quoth Fabius in great choller, nor Tully, nor none besides Tully, but Fabius shall inioy Terentia. Whereupon departing without taking his fare wel, going in to his father, and discoursing vnto him, that Tully was the man that his daughter had chosen for her husband, swearing that his sword, ere it were long, should end their loues. Although Flaminius were grieued, yet he sought to pacifie Fabius, but in vaine for he flung out of the doores in a rage, and went to Miloes house, to seeke Tully. Where breathing out many despightfull threats against the Orator, it came at last to Lentulus eare. Who now to make manifest the deepe affection hee bare to Cicero, trouping him selfe with a crue of the *Prætextati*, and chiefe Romaine Gentlemen that had beene souldiers, and trained vp with him in the warres, hee went to seeke out Fabius, and found him with certaine his companions about the Capitoll. Lentulus

rules not dreading the braue of any, as carrying the heart of a Conquerour, singled out Fabius, and after some wordes, they fell to blowes: But Fabius part were the weaker, so that many were wounded, and some slaine. Vpon this, the next day, parts were taken, the people began to mutiny, and to fall to intestine and ciuill iars: that as in the time of Scilla and Marius, so the streetes were filled with armed Souldiers. The Senators seeing what bloudie stratagems would insue of this strife, if it were not pacified, sent for the Consuls, and charged them to raise vp some of the Legions, and bring Lentulus, Tully, and Fabius the next day to the Senate house, with Terentia, and hir Father. They obeying their commaund, put this charge in execution, and so qualifying some what the fury of the people, brought these three lowers with Terentia before the whole state of Rome. Where being arriued, Tully fearefull of nature, and sicke, yet somewhat strengthned with the sight of his Mistresse, being glad Lentulus was his friend in his loues, after due reuerence, began thus.

Tullies Oration to the Senate.

COnscript Fathers, and graue Senators of Rome, I was borne in Arpinatum, of base parentage, the first of the Ciceroes that euer pleaded in Rostro, or bare title in the citie. If then aduanced by your fauours to these fortunes, I should aspire without proportion to climbe beyond my degree, let me be the first and last, whose presumption shall grow to this preiudice. The temple of Ianus in Rome hath hir gates shut, the streetes are full of armed men, the stones of the Capitoll blusheth at the bloud of Romaines shed against hir walles: and all this muting (crie mine aduersaries) growes from Tully. Not that Tully was then out of his bed, but that men of poore families, lifted vp to honour, are soonest bitten with enuy. I appeale (graue Senators) for my life to your owne censures, if euer I haue not borne more carefull to profit my Country, then desirous of preferment for my labours. But what then say the people is cause

of such broiles? Terentia the daughter of Flaminius, the fire-brand that set Troy to cinders. Beauty is like to bring Rome to confusion: For the greatest houses and families are deuided, the Lentuli & Vatinij, and this for Terentia. Let the cause be examined before the Senators, and as they heare so let them dome: Lentulus chosen by the Senate, was was sent captain ouer many Legions against the Parthians, where he tyed fortune to his thoughts, by his greate victories and conquests set vp trophæs of Romane chiualrie. Returning with glorie to Rome, hauing set in his place Lepidus, he was enamoured, not onely of the beautie, but vertues of Terentia: the fame of whose excellency was spred amongst the Parthians. Coueting to match with so honorable a Lady, he courted her, but in vaine: not that she disdained Lentulus, but that she had fired her fancy before thee fawe Lentulus: for the platforme of loue is able to receiue but one impression. If honors, if conquest, if parentage, if reuenues, if corage, if goods of fortune, body, or mind, might haue won Terentia, all this was united in young Lentulus. But loue that liketh without exceptions, had ouerbard her hart with such former fancies, as the passionate sute of Lentulus could haue no entrance. His thoughts were extreame, and the disquiet of his minde brought a disease to his body. But when he knew that Terentia loued his friend, he appeased his passions, and rested content with his fortunes. The vnconstant goddesse, whose smiles are ouershadowed frownes, not content honour should spring vp without enuy, sends Terentia to walke abroad towards Arpinatum, where when Fabius liued, as famous for his rusticke and vnciuill life, as now he is wondred at for his braue and courtly behauiour. Spying Terentia, he was, as Lentulus, snared in her beauty, that the Romans, to report a miracle said, loue made him of a clown a braue and resolute gentleman. The excellency of Terentia hauing new polished nature in Fabius, he sues for her fauor, but her thoughts that were forepointed with other passions, intreates him to bridle affection, and to make a conquest of himselfe by subdueing the force of fancy, seeing her resolution was directed to loue none but one, and that was Tully. This

word

word (graue Senatours and Romans) sounding basely in the eares of Fabius, caused him to take armes, and Lentulus, to defend his friend Cicero, as for him before he had lost his loue, so he ment to lose his life, and withstood him in the face. Thus grew this mutiny, not against beuty, for it is a chiefe god of it selfe, nor against Tully, for he is meane and vnworthy to be reuenged by armes, but against Terentia, because she vouchsafed to loue Tully. This (Romanes) is the cause of this mutiny, to suppresse which, let Tully die, for he had rather pacifie this strife by deth then se the meanest Roman fall on the sword. The common people at this began to murmure, pleased with the plausible Oration of Tully, which one of the Senators seeing, stood vp and said thus. Terentia, Cicero he hath shewed reasons why thou shouldest loue Lentulus and Fabius, but what reason canst thou infer to loue so meane a man as Tully? Terentia blushing, made this answere. Before so honourable an audience, as these graue Senatours, and worthy Romane Citizens, womens reasons would seeme no reasons, especially in loue, which is without reason: therefore I onely yeeld this reason, I loue Cicero, not able to ratifie my affection with any strong reason, because loue is not circumscript within reasons limits: but if it please the Senate to pacifie this mutiny, let Terentia leaue to liue, because she cannot leaue to loue, and only to loue Cicero. At this she wept and stained her face with such a pleasing vermilion die, that the people shouted, none but Cicero. Whereupon before the Senate Tully and Terentia were betrothed, Lentulus and Fabius made friends, and the one named Lentulus, as the Annales made mention, maried to Flauia, and Fabius wedded to the worthy Cornelia.

FINIS.